

BELIEVE YOUR
EYES.
PROVE IT TO
YOURSELF...
YOU NEED
Konica
FILM

NO. 7796

ARAB TIMES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1990 / RAJAB 22, 1410 AH



TRANSFER
YOUR SALARY
TO
BKME
And get an equivalent
immediate loan!

THE BANK OF KUWAIT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

22 PAGES 150 FILS



Pride of the nation



Proud to be a Kuwaiti. (Photo by Ahmed Burini)

National Day festivities begin

Kuwait celebrates

KUWAIT, Feb 17 (KUNA): The Kuwaiti national flag was hoisted ceremoniously today starting a 12-day celebration for the 29th National Day. The Information Minister, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamed, gave the signal to hoist the flag at the Waterfront's Green Island.

The festivities, which were attended by a huge crowd, were conducted by a group of members of army, police and National Guards. Hundreds of balloons and doves were released as the flag was unfurled.

Rescue squads, fire departments and coast guards presented some demonstrations, in which ministries, public and private institutions and citizens took part.

The celebrations will last until Feb 28 when a ceremony

will be held to lower the flag.

The National Day celebrations during which decorations are in abundance and people express their happiness, are an opportunity to contemplate the march of the nation and its accomplishments.

Kuwait has given special attention to productive projects which are increasing especially those meant to meet the people's consumption needs. Kuwait now even exports certain products.

However, the state is striving to develop Kuwaiti man to match the level of material modernisation and establishing

(Continued on Page 9)

Pak envoy in OIC talks

4 shot dead in Kashmir

JEDDAH, Feb 17, (Agencies): A special envoy of Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto discussed today the Muslim secessionist movement in Jammu and Kashmir province with the head of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

Wakil Hussain Gilani, Pakistani Minister of Law, Justice and Provincial Co-ordination, arrived earlier in the day from Kuwait for meeting with OIC Secretary-General Haukal Al Gabid as well as Saudi Arabian officials.

In Kuwait, Gilani delivered a written message from Benazir to HH the Amir. From Jeddah, he will go to Riyadh to deliver a similar message to the Saudi monarch, King Fahd.

The Jeddah-based OIC had earlier

announced unequivocal support for

Kashmir and the Muslim people of

Kashmir, site of bloody conflict between anti-Indian demonstrators and Indian security forces.

The OIC urged India to search for a peaceful solution to the problem.

Gabid told a recent press conference he contacted New Delhi on the issue but received no response.

Sources in the Saudi capital said

Gilani will meet with the Saudi minister in charge of haj affairs to discuss

preparations for the 1990 pilgrimage

season to the Muslim holy cities of

Makkah and Medina.

The sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said several Islamic issues would also be discussed but declined to specify the Kashmir issue among these.

In Srinagar, India, a protest strike

disrupted normal life in the Kashmir valley whereas between security forces and protesters today left four people dead and 13 others injured, officials said.

Meanwhile, Kashmir's rebellion

leader Sardar Abdul Qayyim warned today that Kashmir might resort

to the military option if obliged.

"Kashmir is asking for peace and will not resort to the military option unless intimidated," he told the Saudi daily Okaz, adding "we are ready for more sacrifices."

Almost 100 Kashmiri inhabitants

have been killed since Jan 20 with the outbreak of the latest violence in the decades-old quest for independence from mainly Hindu India.

He said Kashmir was currently

negotiating with Pakistan to present the issue for settlement at the United Nations.

Abdul Qayyim said if Pakistan

Czech action Husak expelled

PRAGUE, Feb 17, (AP): Former President Gustav Husak, former Prime Minister Svoboda and other leading former officials were expelled today from the Czechoslovak Communist Party, the state news agency CTK reported.

The expulsions were proposed by a commission probing the political responsibility of former senior party officials for Czechoslovak's economic and political problems. They were announced during a session of the party's central committee.

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate south-easterly wind just fresh at times with some clouds.

State of rest: moderate to rough. High water: 6.00 am, 5.00 pm. Low water: 11.00 am, 12.00 noon. Sunrise: 6.26 am. Sunset: 5.39 pm.

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 22°C/72°F
Adm: 22°C/72°F
Fallaka: 19°C/66°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 7°C/45°F
Adm: 11°C/55°F
Fallaka: 11°C/55°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 23°C/73°F
Adm: 20°C/68°F
Fallaka: 19°C/67°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 89 percent
Adm: 84 percent
Fallaka: 80 percent

RAMLOZA
World's
purest
spring
mineral
water
calorie free
Available
Home Delivery
Service

Special offer for
customers. One
case free on
purchase of 10
cases.

Abdul Aziz Saud Al Babtain & Sons Trading Co.
Tel: 24054078

Geagea strikes back after major defeat

Air Force defects to Hirawi; Reuter photographer killed

BEIRUT, Feb 17, (Agencies): Christian militiamen, striking back after a major defeat in Beirut, launched a massive tank-led assault today against a besieged helicopter base held by Gen. Michel Aoun's army north of the capital.

Also today, a police spokesman said rescuers evacuated 32 bodies — some mutilated for recognition — from burned-out cars, tanks, apartments and narrow alleys of East Beirut's Ain Rummaneh district. Aoun's troops took the last two pockets controlled by the Christian militia in the capital.

In the fighting a Reuters news agency photographer, Khalil Dhaher, 30, was shot and killed by sniper fire in the Christian district of Ain Rummaneh, an editor at the British agency said.

Police said at least 1,000 heavily armed fighters from Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia were engaged in the three-pronged attack against the base at Adma. The base is on the hilltop above the famous Casino du Liban in Kersouan province.

Reuter reports ceasefire

BEIRUT, Feb 17, (Agencies): Lebanon's warring Christians today declared a ceasefire in 18 days of fighting in which more than 600 people have been killed.

The ceasefire announcement was made by the forces of both General Michel Aoun and Samir Geagea, who appealed yesterday for outside help for his Lebanese Forces (LF) militia.

The police spokesman, said Geagea's militiamen launched the attack at first light.

He said Geagea's gunners were using truck-mounted, multi-barrelled rocket launchers that spit out 40 projectiles a minute to hit the base, as well as T-54 tanks to try to advance from the north, east and south.

The sources said Geagea's militiamen advanced toward the Adma helicopter base near the LF-controlled port city of Jounieh, 12 miles (19 km) north of Beirut.

"Aoun's forces withdrew after repeated attacks by the militiamen who are now 300 metres (1,000 feet) away from the Adma base," the sources said.

More than 750 soldiers and officers loyal to Aoun have been under siege by the militiamen since the outbreak of the violence in the Christian enclave.

Aoun's gunners outside the area were firing US-made 155 mm howitzers, "trying to ease the pressure on the helicopter base, maintaining a belt of shellfire around it to block the advance," he said.

Lebanon's four-plane Air Force took off from its Halab air base in Kersouan late yesterday and defected to the government of Hirawi. They landed at a base in Syria-occupied north Lebanon, far from Aoun's artillery range.

The police spokesman said the village Hawker Hunters narrowly escaped a shelling barrage by Aoun's gunners.



A Christian boy holds a wooden cross and rests on sandbags in East Beirut. (Reuter wirephoto)

The 18-day-old showdown for control of the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave has left 615 people dead and 1,829 wounded, by police count.

Aoun's gunners and Lebanese Forces militiamen also duelled with mortars in the streets of East Beirut, starting a dozen fires in the districts of Ashrafieh and Nabaa, the last two pockets controlled by the Christian militia in the capital.

"We are taking a short rest before we start uprooting them from Ashrafieh," one of Aoun's soldiers told reporters in Ain Rummaneh on Beirut's southeastern edge.

Bodies booby-trapped

BEIRUT, Feb 17, (AP): Glass shards crunched underfoot as Red Cross workers removed the body of a Lebanese Forces fighter crushed by a burned-out tank against the wall of a demolished building in Christian East Beirut.

Gen. Michel Aoun's soldiers have warned civilians not to touch corpses, saying some of them were booby-trapped by fleeing Lebanese Forces militiamen led by

Apparently, the tank was hit by a Lebanese Forces militiaman jumped out. The errant tank, its driver wounded, rammed the militiaman against the wall.

Parents shooed away youngsters watching the scene in the Furn Al Shubbak section of East Beirut.

"Where are the other two bodies?" one harried rescuer asked his colleague. "There were four militiamen in the tank."

An eerie silent hung over Furn Al Shubbak and the neighbouring district of Ain Rummaneh today, a day after Aoun's soldiers wrested both districts from Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces after a 16-hour tank assault.

At least 75 people were killed and 54 wounded in the attack against the low-income residential neighbourhoods in East Beirut.

By police count, more than 600 people have been killed and more than 1,800 wounded in the 18-day-old struggle for mastery of the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave between Aoun's 19,000 troops and Geagea's forces, made up of 6,000 militiamen and 10,000 reservists.

Ain Rummaneh and Furn Al Shubbak

looked as if struck by a monstrous earthquake after the onslaught by Aoun's predominantly Sunni Muslim "Mukafah."

Some of Ein Rummaneh's densely populated narrow alleys resembled junkyards piled with burned cars, compressed into thin sheets by tanks that had crushed them.

Act of Love

A pregnant 43-year-old mother said through tears on Friday that the unborn baby she hoped would save the life of her cancer-stricken daughter was conceived as an act of love.

Many Ayala became pregnant in the hope that the baby will become a suitable bone marrow donor to her daughter Anissa, who has had leukaemia for the past two years and could soon die.

Looked as if struck by a monstrous earthquake after the onslaught by Aoun's predominantly Sunni Muslim "Mukafah."

Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

"Vitamin D added to cultures of malignant breast cancer cells also inhibits their growth," they said.

The levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D consumed in food, and the farther away from the Equator the lower

the levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

"Vitamin D added to cultures of malignant breast cancer cells also inhibits their growth," they said.

The levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D consumed in food, and the farther away from the Equator the lower

the levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D consumed in food, and the farther away from the Equator the lower

the levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D consumed in food, and the farther away from the Equator the lower

the levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D consumed in food, and the farther away from the Equator the lower

the levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D consumed in food, and the farther away from the Equator the lower

the levels of ultraviolet light.

"Laboratory studies have shown that breast cancer patients with vitamin D receptors in breast tissue have improved survival compared to those without vitamin D receptors," the three men said in a report presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here.

The scientists theorize that the lack of sunlight leads to a deficiency of vitamin D, which has been linked to breast cancer resistance.

The body needs ultraviolet light, a component of sunlight, to utilize vitamin D

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1990

NEWS IN BRIEF

Maharishi wants to move to Florida: A California company wants to build a residential community in Florida devoted to the teachings of the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, former mentor of the Beatles and founder of transcendental meditation.

The Maharishi Earth Development Corp., a 2-year-old Mahishi development company was started by four businessmen who met in India with the Mahishi, whose method of relaxing the body to relieve stress swept the nation in the early 1970s.

Company officials said the Mahishi has nothing to do with the development company, whose founders believe many of society's problems can be attributed to poor planning. But they said they hope the communities will be patterned after the Mahishi's master plan to create heaven on earth.

Company officials targeted Gainesville as one of 50 communities to build a "Mahishi city of immortals" because of Florida's growth rate, and that Tampa and Palm Beach are also under consideration. They plan to pitch their plans to Gainesville developers and architects next week.

The company plans to build 50 "heavenly" communities across North America to provide environments free of pollution, stress, noise and crime, said Jim Bagnoli, a company vice-president. (UPI)

Chlorine gas leak kills 4 in India: Mother Teresa rushed to the site where chlorine gas clouds surged through a crowded street Friday in the eastern port city of Calcutta, killing four people and injuring more than 200 others, police said.

Mother Teresa, who suffers from heart complications and was fitted recently with a pacemaker, walked streets virtually deserted by fearful residents and later held a special prayer meeting at her charity home that looks after Calcutta's poor and destitute.

Her charity home is located less than a mile (1.6 km) from the accident site, police said, adding that the home was not affected by the leak.

Residents returned to their homes after authorities told them the air was free of the pungent gas, police said.

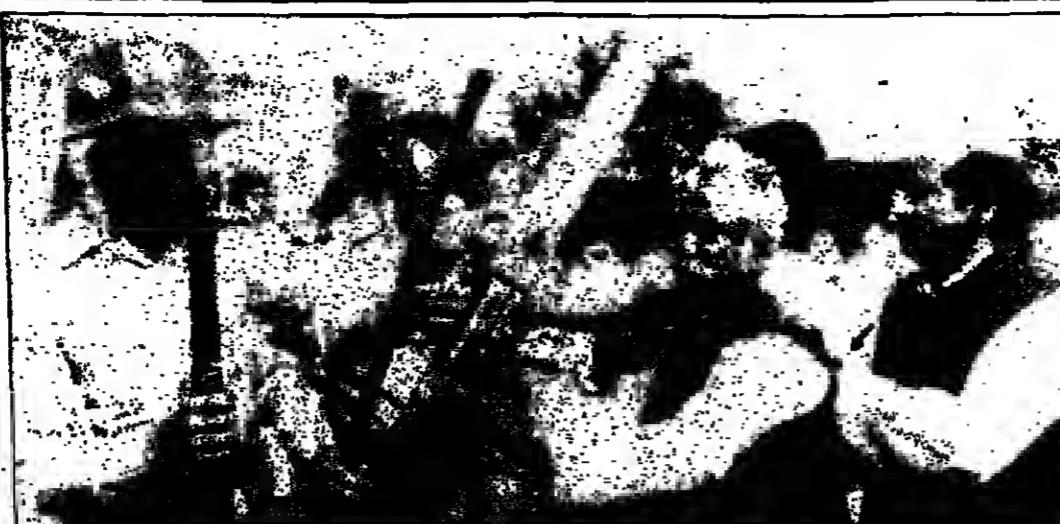
They said the gas leaked out in the pre-dawn hours from a 25-gallon (92-litre) metal cylinder at a small paint factory located in a crowded Kaliaghata area of the eastern West Bengal state capital of Calcutta.

Four people, including two children, were killed, and more than 200 were affected by the gas. They were taken to local hospitals, where most were treated and released. Police said 21 people remained in the hospitals.

Police arrested the factory owner in connection with the incident. (UPI)

Air security improved in Europe: A US commission on aviation security and terrorism appointed after the Flight 103 disaster said Friday that airport security has improved in Europe but Africa is a "basket case."

"If there is an Achilles heel in aviation security, it is Africa, which is literally a basket case," said US congressman James L. Oberstar, chairman of the House of Representatives Public Works and Transportation subcommittee on Aviation. (AP)



Dhaka protest

Leaders of Bangladesh opposition party, Awami League, scuffle with police preventing them from marching towards the office of President Hussain Muhammad Ershad demanding his resignation and fair elections. Later they dispersed without violence. (Reuter wirephoto)

IA may ground A320s: Khan

Mystery shrouds crash

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

BANGALORE, India, Feb 17: India's civil aviation minister told grieving relatives at a mortuary service today he would ground all aircraft of the type that crashed this week, killing 90 if there were any doubts about its safety.

Indian authorities gathered 23 unidentified bodies, badly charred and shriveled, for the symbolic ceremony in a hospital mortuary and were surprised when three of the victims were identified by some of the 200 relatives present.

"I just wish he had died in a road accident, then at least I could have seen his face," said Mrs. A. Govindraj who then dissolved into tears and could not speak to explain how she had identified her husband.

Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Christian priests were chanting over coffins draped with marigolds and roses. Priests burned incense.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane crashed, but initial speculation centred on a pilot error or a fault in one of at least three computers supposed to make it

impossible for a pilot to crash an A320.

Three days after the tragedy, mystery continues to shroud the circumstances in which the aircraft, which was approaching the runway for normal landing, suddenly lost height and crashed.

The truth will finally be known only when the court of inquiry, to be headed by Justice K. Shivshankar Bhat of the Karnataka High Court, submits its report some three or four months from now.

Investigators have begun analysing data from the cockpit voice recorder of the Airbus.

A six-member team from the Airbus Industries, the European consortium that built the plane, arrived from France on Thursday to help India's directorate general of civil aviation in investigations into the accident.

"For God's sake, ground the aircraft," he shouted.

Khan said no decision to ground the new A320s would be taken until preliminary reports were received on why a sophisticated aircraft only two months old had crashed.

"If we have one iota of doubt, we will ground the aircraft, but we must wait for the preliminary report," Khan replied.

So far no clue has emerged on why the plane

Transmits HIV-2

Monkey, Aids linked

NEW ORLEANS, Feb 17, (AP): A gray monkey called the sooty mangabey almost certainly triggered an epidemic in West Africa of a disease closely related to Aids by spreading a virus to people, a researcher said yesterday.

Dr Vanessa Hirsch of Georgetown University said the monkey probably transmitted the HIV-2 virus to people sometime within the past century through a bite or some other close contact.

While HIV-2 can kill, it is not as relentlessly fatal as HIV-1, the virus responsible for acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Many kinds of African monkeys naturally harbour relatives of the human Aids virus. And while the chances of transmission from animals to people are slim, this likely has happened in the past and could occur again.

"I would say it's very dangerous to own any kind of

African primate," said Hirsch.

Hirsch presented her findings at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Many experts believe that HIV-1 spread from animals to people, as well. According to one theory, it moved into a small, geographically isolated pocket of humans in Africa sometime in the past. But the disease became epidemic only in recent years when those people moved to cities.

While no one has pinpointed the primate ancestor of HIV-1, Hirsch said the discovery of one possible candidate will be published soon in the British journal, *Nature*. She said that a team from the French Pasteur Institute has discovered a variety of HIV-1 in a pet chimpanzee.

"The evidence is highly suggestive of transmission from monkeys to man of HIV-2," agreed Dr Louis Martin of the Delta Regional Primate Research centre.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

ST PETERSBURG, Florida: A Goodwill Industries worker accustomed to finding change in donated shoes ran across one shoe with a bit more — \$3,000.

"I took one look at that and I said, 'oh, oh, oh,'" said Fred Kast, who has worked in a goodwill programme for the disabled for 20 years.

The \$20 and \$50 bills were in several bank envelopes marked with the name Mrs Henry Konarske and an address: Henry Konarske, who is recuperating from a recent hernia operation, answered the telephone call from Goodwill employees.

He said his wife, Martha, died recently, and he had donated some of her belongings. The Goodwill employees told the 90-year-old retired postal worker about the cash.

"I didn't know what to say," Konarske said. "It was a surprise to me, I didn't know anything about it. Until she got sick about two years ago, she took care of all the bills."

NEW YORK: Keith Haring, whose distinctive drawings on New York City subways and walls caught the eye of influential dealers and became the basis for a lucrative New York art fair, died on Friday. He was 31.

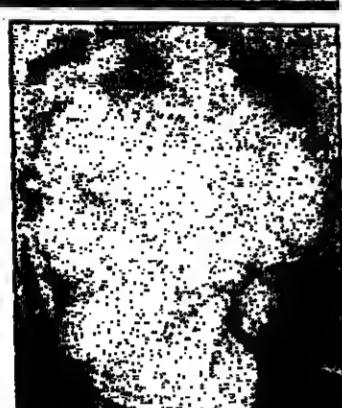
Haring, who had been diagnosed as having the Aids virus more than a year ago, died in his downtown New York City apartment, said an unidentified Margaret Shulert.

Haring, who was active in Aids fund raising, returned Jan 18 from a trip to Europe, and soon fell ill with cold and flu-like symptoms, she said.

For the past few days, he had been under the 24-hour care of a nurse at home, she said.

Haring's work, characterised by cartoon-like human and animal figures in an energised setting, has been exhibited world-wide. He has had 47 open shows, but is perhaps best known for his murals in public places.

Among these was a 300-foot (100-metre) mural painted on the Berlin Wall in 1986, a chain of red



Smiling's a pain

Barbara Bush (shown above) kept an active schedule Friday, saying she felt great following minor skin cancer surgery that left her with a slightly swollen lip and a row of stitches beneath her nose.

The First Lady was cheerful and energetic as she toured an interior decorating exhibit to benefit the Washington Home, a health care and hospice programme with which she has long been associated.

Smiling, but not broadly, she replied "great" when asked how she felt following the outpatient operation Wednesday to remove a small basal cell cancer on her upper lip.

and black human figures on a yellow background — incorporating the colours of the flag of East and West Germany. (AP)

SANTA BARBARA, California: Actor Sean Connery was caught by police driving at high speeds along a scenic highway, a la James Bond. He has admitted guilt and paid a fine, authorities said.

"007" did it. But unlike James Bond, he didn't fight with police, "said... Bob Calvert, Santa Barbara county chief trial deputy, referring to Miss Gabor's conviction for slapping a Beverly Hills policeman who stopped her Rolls-Royce.

US court reverses ruling on DES

WASHINGTON, Feb 17, (UPI): In a victory for women stricken by cancer linked in a miscarriage-prevention drug taken by their mothers, a federal appeals court ruled yesterday that circumstantial evidence can be used in lawsuits against makers of the drug.

In reversing a federal court ruling, the US circuit court of appeals for the district of Columbia found that Amy Shadd, 35, of Richmond, Virginia, "produced more than sufficient evidence for a reasonable juror to conclude that she had been exposed to DES.

The three-judge appeals panel ordered Shadd's suit, filed against DES manufacturer Eli Lilly, back to US district court in Washington for a possible trial.

In the 1950s, DES frequently was given to pregnant women to reduce the risk of miscarriage. The Food and Drug Administration banned the drug in the 1970s after linking it to the incidence of vaginal cancer in women whose mothers took the drug during pregnancy.

Shadd's contracted vaginal cancer but could not find medical or pharmaceutical records to show her mother took the drug. Her mother's doctor had since died and to prove her case, she relied on testimony from her own doctors who suspected she had been exposed to the drug, her mother's description of the medication, her mother's symptoms during pregnancy and other pieces of "circumstantial evidence."

The trial court found Shadd failed to present conclusive proof she had been exposed to the drug.

But appeals court judge Abner Mikva, writing for the unanimous court in reversing the lower court decision, said there was enough evidence to prove exposure that the plaintiff does not have to rule out "every conceivable alternative theory" of the ailment.

A spokeswoman for Eli Lilly and Co. said the company had no comment because the case is still open.

Ex-soul singer Ike Turner sentenced

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Feb 17, (AP): Veteran soul singer Ike Turner was sentenced yesterday to four years in prison on cocaine charges, and a prison guard will be posted to help the 58-year-old one-time music star.

"Our hope is that when he gets out he'll do something along the lines of rehabilitation," said deputy district attorney Ralph Mayer. "He's not the type of criminal that's in any way violent or selling the drugs. He's just a 20-year abuser of the drugs who should have been caught a long time ago."

Turner admitted in 1986 that he had been addicted to cocaine for 15 years.

Following sentencing by superior court judge Robert



Foetus tests point to marrow match

Pregnancy bid pays off

LOS ANGELES, Feb 17, (UPI): A middle-aged couple appear to have beaten the medical odds in their desperate gambit to save their leukemia-stricken daughter by having a baby who can donate vital bone marrow to her sister.

Maria and Abe Ayala's baby, due in April, will be a compatible donor for her 17-year-old sister, Anissa, which means the bone marrow the baby provides will have a 70-per cent chance of defeating the form of leukemia afflicting the teenager, doctors at City of Hope National Medical Centre, in Duarte, Calif., announced yesterday.

"It was just an impossibility to say that this baby is going to match but... we are all very blessed," a tearful Maria Ayala, 43, said after learning of the likely match. "I feel that my baby is a blessing from God. When they told us, I couldn't believe it."

"This is our baby, our miracle baby," the 45-year-old father said at the same news conference.

The chance for a bone marrow match among siblings is about 25 per cent, while there is only a 1-in-20,000 chance of finding a compatible donor in the general population.

"I never thought I'd be pregnant at my age," Maria Ayala said, "but when you're faced with the possibility that your child is going to die, you desperately seek and, whatever you need to do, you do it."

Tears have determined the baby, due April 13, is a girl. She will be named Marissa Eve.

No other members of the Walnut, Calif. family match Anissa's bone marrow, and a search by the national marrow donor programme of unrelated donors has failed to find a match.

"In this particular case, the testing has been performed and it shows the baby is a match to the patient," said Dr Stephen J. Forman, director of hematology and bone marrow transplantation at City of Hope.

Legal and medical ethics experts expressed concern about the ramifications of the mother's decision to bear a child for the purpose of helping her daughter.

Alexander Morgan Capron, a University of Southern California professor of law and medicine, said there are important issues to consider.

"There is the psychological issue that the baby is her sister's organ bank," Capron said. "If it turns out that she is not well-matched to the sister with leukemia, in what way will they regard her? That she has failed in her mission."

Anissa Ayala, whose leukemia was diagnosed in 1988 and currently is in remission, answered critics of the pregnancy.

The umbilical fluid will be frozen until Anissa is ready for the transplant, following a series of chemotherapy and radiation treatments to kill the cancer cells. If additional marrow is needed, it will be taken when Marissa is about 6 months old, when the risk of complications is reduced, Forman said.

Forman said the transplant procedure, similar to a blood transfusion, would take about 15 minutes and only 3-1/2 ounces of the fluid would be taken from the baby.

Forman said other City of Hope families have considered having a

baby to provide a donor, but doctors have not supported that decision.

"We never encouraged that to be the reason to bring the child into the world," he said. "Our hope is that the national registry (of donors) will grow and eliminate the need for this sort of thing."

Doctors at St Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis said they have known of similar cases in which parents have chosen to have a child to increase the chances of finding a marrow donor.

However, St Jude, one of the nation's foremost medical centres for treating children with cancer, has maintained a policy of not advising parents one way or the other on such a decision, hospital spokeswoman Deborah McCrory said.

Healthy kid, better life

Teen pregnancy

NEW ORLEANS, Feb 17, (AP): Poor girls who become teen-age mothers improve their economic outlook and increase their chances of having a healthy baby, a researcher said yesterday.

The findings challenge the widely held belief that teen-age pregnancy and motherhood are among the most serious problems facing the poor, said the researcher, Arline Geronimus of the University of Michigan.

"I think women in poverty know what they're doing," she said in an interview. "There are social realities in the poor that those of us doing research are unaware of."

Among her findings:

— Infants in poverty-stricken communities are healthier if their mothers are in their teens rather than their 20s, because poor mothers are healthier when they are younger.

— Teen-age mothers form alliances with the fathers' families — even if they are not married — that improve the mother's economic positions.

— Teen-age mothers are free to earn a living in their 20s because their children are old enough to be cared for by other family members.

— The elevated death rate for children of poor black mothers would become even higher if the women were encouraged to delay childbirth.

"I would like to go on record today in opposition to the view that teen childbearing is self-destructive, irrational or anti-social behaviour," Geronimus said.

The Children's Defence Fund, a research and advocacy organization in Washington, campaigns actively to reduce the teen-age pregnancy rate.

"If a 15- or 16-year-old becomes pregnant, there's no way that's a smart thing," said the organization's Ray O'Brien.

Teen-age pregnancy and motherhood lock poor women into poverty and poor academic performance, he said.

"However dramatic or heartfelt these concerns, their scientific basis is questionable," Geronimus said.

In a separate study, researchers reported that teen mothers were more likely to drop out of school than their childless classmates.

He said Marissa will be able to donate some of the life-giving fluid moments after she is born. Her umbilical cord will contain fluid very rich in the cells needed to regenerate Anissa's diseased marrow.

The umbilical fluid will be frozen until Anissa is ready for the transplant, following a series of chemotherapy and radiation treatments to kill the cancer cells. If additional marrow is needed, it will be taken when Marissa is about 6 months old, when the risk of complications is reduced, Forman said.

Forman said the transplant procedure, similar to a blood transfusion, would take about 15 minutes and only 3-1/2 ounces of the fluid would be taken from the baby.

Forman said bone marrow transplants from siblings under age 2 are fairly common and the procedure is not dangerous.

24 K PANDA GOLD COINS
SHOW YOUR LOVE AND
RESPECT,
MAKE AN EVER LASTING GIFT...
GOLD COINS LASTS FOREVER

Oriental Pearl

Souk Al Muttaheda, Tel. 2442174

An offer where even the look is special

The great Mothercare end of season special offer, where you'll find marvellous reductions on our fabulous winter collection all with the famous Mothercare quality, so for that special look - hurry down to Mothercare Salmiya.



A Division Of
M.H. Alshaya Co

Salmiya, Salem Al Mubarak St. Northern Salmiya Building
Shops No 42-43 Tel: 5730-822

REQUIRED

JAPANESE SALES EXECUTIVE

MUST HAVE TRANSFERABLE RESIDENCE PERMIT

ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGE COMMENSURATE WITH QUALIFICATIONS

FOR APPOINTMENT

CALL TEL: 4742000/4732100
Extension 6005/6006





Former US president Ronald Reagan waves to photographers as he arrives at the Federal Courthouse in Los Angeles yesterday to testify in Iran-Contra affair. (Reuter wirephoto)

Reagan testifies in Iran-Contra affair

Ex-president to face 154 questions by defence attorney in camera

LOS ANGELES, Feb 17. (AP): Ronald Reagan was in front of the camera again, with lawyers hanging on his every word as the former president produced a videotaped version of his recollection of the Iran-Contra affair.

Reagan testified behind closed doors for about six hours yesterday, answering questions about his role in the Iran-Contra affair, the failed arms-for-hostages deal during Reagan's second term as president.

The Iran-Contra affair, the largest scandal of Reagan's eight years as president, involved the clandestine sale of arms to Iran and then the diversion of profits from those deals to resupply the Nicaraguan

rebels, known as Contras.

Reagan was compelled to testify in the case by US district judge Harold Greene, who is presiding over the trial of former White House National Security Adviser John M. Poindexter in Washington, DC.

The former president was to face 154 questions, which were drawn from 123 submitted to the court by defence attorney Richard Beckler. The attorney was allowed follow-up questions if necessary but the judge prohibited him from raising additional questions on new subjects.

Security was especially rigorous for the extraordinary session, which began Friday morning at the federal courthouse in downtown Los Angeles.

Reporters were kept more than 100 yards (metres) away.

In deference to the former president, Greene allowed Reagan, 79, to give videotaped testimony near his Bel-Air area home rather than require him to appear in person at Poindexter's trial in Washington.

On Friday, Reagan entered the courtroom a few minutes after Poindexter, and the two exited separately about 6-1/2 hours later, each refusing to respond to questions shouted by the crush of reporters waiting outside.

The former security adviser goes on trial March 5 on charges of concealing from Congress assistance

by his former aide, Oliver North, to the Nicaraguan rebels and lying about a 1985 shipment of Hawk missiles to Iran.

Poindexter sought the former chief executive's testimony to bolster his contention that his secret activities had been authorised by Reagan.

"I think he was very fair in his testimony," Beckler said of the president as he left court.

Greene threw out 29 of Beckler's questions because they lacked relevancy or touched too closely to national secrets.

Cross-examination was to be conducted by Dan K. Webb, the chief prosecutor for Iran-Contra independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh.

Noriega cronies may get pardon

PANAMA CITY, Feb 17. (UPI): President Guillermo Endara is considering issuing a pardon to allies of former Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega charged with unconstitutional acts, a presidential aide said Thursday.

President spokesman Luis Martínez said Endara may issue the pardon as part of the national reconciliation process he called for after assuming office Dec 20, the day of the US invasion. Martínez said the decree would be made "in a matter of weeks."

"He (Endara) would consider a pardon for political opponents charged with unconstitutional acts," Martínez said.

Since the invasion, more than 1,000 charges have been filed at the Attorney-general's office against hundreds of military and government officials who served under Noriega. Many charges are for violent crimes such as torture and murder but others are for abuse of power and unconstitutional acts. Martínez said the pardon would not affect persons charged with violent crimes.

Martínez said, for instance, that Endara would consider granting a pardon to the former state council — made up of cabinet ministers and armed forces commanders — which named Noriega's former classmate, Francisco Rodriguez, as president last Sept 1 after the May 7 presidential elections were annulled.

Most observers say Endara won the presidential election by a 3-to-1 margin. The council has been charged with abuse of power since they did not have the power under the Panamanian constitution to name Rodriguez president.

Deposed Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega, who claims to be a prisoner of war, was visited yesterday by a doctor and delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Jean-Marc Bonet, Red Cross delegate general for Latin America, refused to give any details of the visit when contacted in Washington.

Three of Noriega's co-defendants on drug-trafficking charges are being held in Miami.

More than 1,000 Panamanian soldiers and civilians died in the December US invasion, far higher than official figures, the head of a group of families who lost relatives in the invasion said yesterday.

"Until now it has not been known how many really died," said the group's leader, Isabel Corro, who called on Panama's new government to investigate the death toll.

Ortega invites Bush

Congressmen poll monitors

WASHINGTON, Feb 17. (UPI): Twelve members of Congress are members of a delegation headed by former President Jimmy Carter that will observe the Feb 25 presidential and general assembly elections in Nicaragua.

Nicaragua barred a delegation of congressional election observers appointed by President Bush in protest of continuing US non-ideal aid to the Contra guerrillas.

Congress voted in 1988 to cut off military aid to the Contras, which had failed in their efforts to overthrow Nicaragua's Cuban- and Soviet-backed government, but agreed to send food, clothes, medical supplies and other aid to the guerrillas through the elections.

Carter heads the council of freely elected heads of government, a group of election observers that included four members of Congress and which has been welcomed to Nicaragua by the government. After Managua barred the Bush-appointed delegation, Carter invited House and Senate leaders to suggest additional members of Congress for his group.

I'll be exonerated: Barry

Mayor undergoing treatment

WASHINGTON, Feb 17. (AP): Mayor Marion Barry contends that he will be exonerated of new drug-related charges, but a city official is calling for his resignation and a top adviser wonders whether the mayor has any political future.

Barry, 53, was indicted Thursday on five misdemeanor counts of cocaine possession and three felony counts of lying to a grand jury questioning him on drug use.

US district judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, who was assigned the case today, tentatively scheduled Barry's arraignment for next Wednesday.

Closer advisers to Barry said Thursday that the mayor will leave a Florida drug treatment clinic by the end of the month to continue treatment elsewhere. Barry entered the Hanley-Hazelden clinic in West Palm Beach four days after his Jan 18 arrest on a cocaine possession charge.

Barry, in a defiant statement issued through his office, said the indictment was "a continuation of the political lynching and



Barry has steadfastly denied ever using drugs, and his statement said he was undergoing treatment for "the disease of alcoholism."

The mayor said he is giving no thought to resigning.

But one aide, who asked not to be identified, said the indictment dealt "a crippling blow, an absolutely devastating assault" to Barry's re-election chances if he seeks a fourth four-year term in November's election.

Asked if Barry should resign, city councilwoman Betty Ann Kanase said: "It might be in his best interests and the city's best interests. As a person who cares about the city, I would make that recommendation, now that it's gotten to this point."

The Washington Post said in editorial Friday Barry "has lost any last claim to a position of leadership" and should resign. "For the sake of the city—and of all the talent that stands ready to enlist public support for new leadership in City Hall—Mr Barry should let go—entirely," the newspaper said.

Now that we will be moving into the courtroom—which is where this case should be tried, not in the press—I am relieved," Barry said. "I know that when a trial is held, I will be exonerated."

TAMPA, Florida, Feb 17. (Agencies): Pablo Escobar Gaviria, reputed leader of the Medellin Drug Cartel, was indicted yesterday by a state grand jury with 13 others on charges they helped smuggle more than 8,000 pounds (3,629 kilograms) of cocaine through Florida.

Escobar, last reported at large in Colombia, already faces federal drug charges in Miami, where he is one of 15 co-defendants of Manuel Noriega, Panama's deposed leader.

The Medellin Cartel, based in the Colombian city of that name, is said to be responsible for up to 80 per cent of the cocaine imported to the United States. Agents said the nine-court racketeering and conspiracy indictment is the culmination of a 15-month investigation.

Escobar was named in the 1988 federal drug-trafficking indictment that led to the arrest of Noriega. That indictment accused Escobar, as head of the cartel, with bribing Noriega to turn Panama into a transit and processing point for Colombian cocaine.

Noriega was arrested after the US invasion of Panama in December and is awaiting trial in

Narcotics detective killed in car blast

PATCHOGUE, New York, Feb 17. (UPI): An off-duty undercover narcotics detective was killed Thursday by a bomb that had been planted in his car, authorities said.

Detective Dennis Wustenhoff, 41, died from injuries he suffered in a blast that apparently was triggered either when he sat in the driver's seat, or turned on the ignition, Suffolk county police commissioner Daniel Guido said.

Wustenhoff "was probably assassinated, and it was job-connected," Guido said of the undercover narcotics investigator. "We don't know whether it was for revenge or was connected to a current case."

Sum Jones, an agent of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement said, however, that the central figure in the operation was Escobar. Escobar, whose full name is Pablo Emilio Escobar Gaviria, was already wanted in Florida, Louisiana and Colorado on charges of trafficking in cocaine, marijuana and possibly heroin.

'No escape from the emotional scars'

US condemns torture

GENEVA, Feb 17. (Reuter): US Ambassador Armando Valladares, once tortured in Cuban prisons, accused Iran, China, Burma, Nicaragua and Cuba yesterday of using torture and committing other human rights violations.

"For those victims who are fortunate—or in some instances, unfortunate—enough to survive degrading treatment, there is never any escape from the emotional scars of being tortured," he told the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

The ambassador singled out Iran, saying it had applied psychological torture and executed more than 1,200 political prisoners in 1988 to stifle opposition.

He said the US government was alarmed at persistent reports of Chinese violations of rights in Tibet and gave the example of 45-year-old Tseten Norgy of Lhasa, who reportedly lost an eye during brutal interrogations.

Citing an Amnesty International report, Valladares criticised Burma for killing and

arresting thousands of people for political reasons.

He said the government in Nicaragua had threatened and sometimes killed opposition leaders.

Speaking in Spanish, he said that in his native Cuba dozens of reformist young people were arrested and tortured after a rally at which a crowd chanted the slogans of "perestroika" (restructuring) and "free elections."

Valladares spent 22 years as a political prisoner under Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Bolivians unmoved by drug summit

LA PAZ, Feb 17. (AP): Farmers and government officials say the Cartagena drug summit will have no immediate impact on Bolivia's anti-drug campaign.

However, the officials are pleased that the United States recognised a shared responsibility for cocaine trafficking and will provide more financial support for alternative crops to replace coca grown by Bolivian farmers.

"In the short term I don't think the Cartagena summit will have much impact on fighting cocaine trafficking," Information Minister Manfredo Kempff told the Associated Press. "In a medium term, though, we should be able to come on greater collaboration from the United States."

President Jaime Paz Zamora attended the Thursday summit in Cartagena, Colombia, along with the presidents of Peru, Columbia and the United States.

In their communiqué, the four presidents noted that persuading Andean farmers to turn from coca production to legal crops would have "significant, immediate and long-term economic costs" on Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

US President George Bush pledged to request an economic aid package from Congress for fiscal 1991 to 1994 to help offset these losses, the communiqué said.

"Some critics say we received no firm monetary commitments," Kempff said. "We went to Cartagena for the US to understand our position, to make a firm commitment to fight against cocaine trafficking and from there identify the fight with greater foreign collaboration. Now the effective collaboration must come."

Evo Morales, leader of the Chapare Cocal Leaf Farmers Union, said the Cartagena summit did not provide concrete programmes to address the needs of farmers.

"In the summit declarations there is nothing clear and it does not assure us markets or prices for alternative crops. We do not trust the Bolivian or American governments," Morales said.

Pastor Vizcaino, leader of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front, or FSLN, is being challenged in the Feb 25, national elections by Violeta Chamorro, the candidate of the United National Opposition, or UNO. Nicaraguan voters also will elect representatives to the country's national assembly.

Ortega, the candidate of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front, or FSLN, is being challenged in the Feb 25, national elections by Violeta Chamorro, the candidate of the United National Opposition, or UNO. Nicaraguan voters also will elect representatives to the country's national assembly.

Ortega, in his campaign speech, referred to UNO as "the GN-1" — a reference to the initials of the feared national guard of former dictator Anastasio Somoza, who was ousted by the Sandinista Front in July 1979.

Ortega, in his campaign speech, referred to UNO as "the GN-1" — a reference to the initials of the feared national guard of former dictator Anastasio Somoza, who was ousted by the Sandinista Front in July 1979.

The President suggested that the United States is concerned that the Sandinistas will win the elections.

The President suggested that the United States is concerned that the Sandinistas will win the elections.

NEWS IN BRIEF

America

VCR burglar victim jailed: A buyer of a stolen videocassette recorder found it contained a baby-faced child sex tape, recognised the girl and gave the tape to her mother, police said in Los Angeles.

A neighbour has been jailed on molestation charges, the police said.

Ward Rafay, 28, was being held on nine counts of child molestation and one of possessing marijuana.

Rafay allegedly owned the sex tape found in a stolen videocassette recorder, prosecutor Dean Shotwell said Thursday.

Two weeks ago, Rafay reported a burglar stole a VCR from his apartment.

Evangelist testifies: An evangelist being tried for murder in Milton in Florida in the alleged exorcism death of a 4-year-old denied in an interrogation reported Friday that she ever told the girl's mother how to rid the toddler of evil spirits.

The denial came in a taped interview played by prosecutors in the trial of Mary Nicholson, 40, who is charged with first-degree murder and aggravated child abuse in the February 1988 death of Kimberly McZinc.

Prosecutors are trying to prove that Nicholson was instrumental in persuading the child's mother, Darlene Jackson, to starve and beat McZinc in an alleged effort to rid her of six demons.

Jackson, 33, who pleaded guilty last year to third-degree murder and neglect, spent three days on the witness stand earlier this week. (UPI)

Laundromat figure missing: A member of former governor Jerry Brown's administration facing trial on money-laundering charges was reported missing Friday in San Diego, prompting prosecutors to seek a warrant for his arrest.

Hours after he was reported missing, Richard T. Silberman's light-blue 1975 Mercedes-Benz, which he was supposed to have driven to an appointment in Orange County Thursday night, was found in an airport parking lot at Lindbergh Field, police said.

Silberman was also seen purchasing an airline ticket Thursday afternoon on a 6:05 pm US flight to Los Angeles International Airport, police said.

"It is not known whether Mr Silberman boarded that flight ... There is no indication at this time that foul play was involved," a police statement said. (UPI)

Mail bombings probe: A man targeted in the probe of mail bombs sent to judges and lawyers across the southeast twice appealed to the court on which a slain judge sat, a court official said Friday in Atlanta.

Federal Appeals Court Judge Robert Vance was one of two victims of the bombs sent to targets in Georgia, Alabama and Florida.

Walter Leroy Moody, one of three men investigated by the FBI in connection with the mail bombs, was charged in 1983 with attempted murder in Florida.

The case resulted in a mistrial, and Moody filed a lawsuit alleging malicious prosecution and false arrest. It was thrown out, and he appealed the dismissal in December 1988.

A panel of the Florida Federal Appeals Court, including Vance, dismissed Moody's appeal. A court official, who asked that his name not be used, said the panel did not hold a hearing and Moody never appealed before the court. (UPI)

Out of many come one: New York State officials Friday started the ball rolling toward revision of history textbooks to reflect the roles of ethnic groups other than white Europeans.

State education commissioner Thomas Sobol said he doesn't want to rewrite facts, but rather include "differing perspectives on the same fact."

Holding up a nickel, Sobol said that the textbooks should reflect the "pluribus" as well as the "unum" in the nation's motto of "e pluribus unum"—out of many come one. (UPI)

Hazelwood didn't seem drunk: A coast guard investigator said in Anchorage that Joseph Hazelwood

INTERNATIONAL

Drexel, Trump and Perrier in troubled times

Yuppies sans symbols

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (Reuters): For stylish young professionals, the high-flying, affluent 1980's have come to an abrupt end, six weeks behind schedule. In a week, they lost three key symbols of their quick success.

Known as yuppies, the young upwardly mobile professionals here couldn't even drown their sorrows in Perrier.

Junk-bond King Drexel Burnham Lambert surrendered to financial troubles, arrogant billionnaire Donald Trump became a target of lurid tabloid gags and Perrier — the mineral water that stood for a health-conscious decade — pulled its product from store shelves worldwide.

"In one week you have Trump, Drexel and Perrier — you couldn't ask for much better evidence of a decade's passing," said Kurt Anderson, co-editor of the satirical magazine Spy.

"Drexel, which dominated the market for the high-risk, high-yield junk bonds that fuelled so many 1980s takeovers, put itself up for sale on Monday to

avoid financial collapse.

Wall Street experts said there was little interest in buying the once-powerful firm. After pleading guilty to insider-trading charges and paying \$650 million in fines, it still has potential legal troubles.

Drexel's announcement further tarnished the glitter of Wall Street.

Only a few years ago ambitious college graduates made hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in their first jobs there. They justified that with the 1980s business mantra "greed is good" and didn't worry too much about how it might all end.

"It looks like it's over for us," said one of Drexel's 5,300 employees last week. "We were told: 'Look for a job.'"

On Fifth Avenue, Donald Trump, the man who personified the self-absorbed, larger-than-life image of the 1980s and seemed to have the world at his feet, faced his own apparently self-made problems.

The man who named his glitziest buildings after himself and loves to manipulate media coverage had reports of his alleged philandering splashed on the front pages of New York tabloids amid what promised to be a messy divorce.

And Perrier, which in 1988 sold Americans \$550 million worth of its pure French spring water, issued a massive recall after it found some traces of the solvent trichloroethylene.

Drexel, at least, seemed to elicit little sympathy.

"My guess would be that some people will think that this in fact will be a good thing — here are all these high-fliers who got what's coming to them," said Charles O'Reilly, a University of California sociologist.

Said Andersen, whose magazine made its reputation on celebrity-bashing. "I don't doubt that within some relatively short time they will find some new vehicle to live the kind of good life with other people's money."

Trump playing waiting game

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (UPI): Billionaire Donald Trump has no immediate plans to file for divorce but is waiting to see if his estranged wife, Ivana, will go to court to invalidate a pre-nuptial agreement giving her \$20 million to \$25 million, his attorneys said yesterday.

Jay Goldberg and Stanford Sowin, representing the real estate development tycoon, said divorce is not the issue at this time.

"The issue in the case is whether the agreement can be attacked successfully," said Goldberg. "My position is that she is trying to knock down a steel door with a feather."

The law is clear that this agreement cannot be attacked. She has to show that the original agreement and three subsequent updates she signed were unconscionable — that a sane person of normal mental abilities would not have entered into them.

"It's difficult to set aside one agreement; let alone four. No, this is just a publicity circus for a person who does not have the law on her side."

Earlier in the day Lotwin announced that no legal action has been started or filed by his client, indicating Trump has chosen to play a waiting game with his wife.

"We have no such plans," Lotwin said. "My client, Donald, has no plans to sue Ivana at this time."

Mrs Trump's parents have joined her from Czechoslovakia for the drawn-out marital battle that has been called "the divorce of the new decade."

Trump, 43, walked out on his glamorous wife last Friday. Ivana, 40, is holding out for more than the sum provided in the pre-nuptial agreement, which also gives her a Greenwich, Conn., mansion and custody of their three children. She signed the agreement in 1977 and agreed to three updates since, most recently two years ago.

She is also hanging on to her job as president and managing director of Trump's prestigious Plaza Hotel and the 50-room duplex apartment in Trump Tower that she once shared with her husband.

She was joined there by her electrical engineer father, Milos Zehnecik, who flew in from Prague to be with her for her 41st birthday next Monday. Mrs Trump has told friends she would prefer a reconciliation with Trump to any other solution to their marital troubles.

She has been encouraged to seek a reconciliation by her mother, Maria Zehnecikova, who has been staying in New York since the Trump marriage began to break up during their Christmas stay in Aspen, Colo., last December.

It was in Aspen that she had a confrontation with Marla Maples, 26, an aspiring actress and former Miss USA contestant from Georgia, who reportedly is the "other woman" in the Trump breakup.

The New York Post reported that Maples "once gushed to friends that Donald Trump gave her 'the best sex I've ever had' and described him as a 'wonderful, wonderful lover.'



Gung ho!

Alberto Stark of the Canadian Kawanakas Indian tribe, famous for their ability to fearlessly work and scale New York's skyscrapers, climbs up the Eiffel Tower in Paris during the filming of an adventure series for French television. (Reuter wirephoto)

De Klerk delays talks

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 17, (Agencies): President Frederik de Klerk plans to study the African National Congress' decision to send a delegation to South Africa for direct talks before he comments on the proposal, a spokesman said today.

The ANC's announcement yesterday was the first official response to the racial reforms De Klerk launched Feb 2 that included the lifting of the 30-year ban on the ANC and the release of black leader Nelson Mandela.

"Obviously the president is not going to react to newspaper or wire service reports," said Casper Venter, director of liaison and information in the state president's office. "He is waiting for a copy of the complete text and in his own time he will decide how to answer it."

In its announcement issued at the end of a three-day conference in Lusaka, the ANC's national executive committee also said it would re-establish the movement in South Africa for the first time in 30 years and prepare for the return of exiles.

Earlier this week, De Klerk said the government was ready to enter into immediate talks with the ANC. In an interview with the ABC programme "Nightline," De Klerk said the ANC must "walk across the threshold and start talking."

If the direct talks occur, they would be the first between a South African president and the 78-year-old ANC.

The ANC wants De Klerk to end a three-year state of emergency, repeal restrictive legislation, halt political trials and remove troops from black townships.

ANC sources said talks with the South African president would focus on how to implement the legislation of the movement. De Klerk lifted a 30-year-old ban on the ANC on February 2.

The ANC, based in Lusaka, says its political activities are hampered by the state of emergency and other repressive laws. "You cannot give one the right

Zulu chief criticises Mandela: Zulu leader Mangonethu Buthelezi has accused Nelson Mandela of serious errors of judgement, highlighting deep political divisions between black South Africans.

Buthelezi, the first prominent black to criticise Mandela since his release from 27 years in jail on Sunday, took the black nationalist leader to task on Friday over his attitude to inter-racial violence in Natal province.

He quoted Mandela as saying there was evidence of South African police siding with the Zulu Inkatha Movement in clashes with the leftist United Democratic Front (UDF).

"Sadly the facts do not tally with the interpretation which Dr Mandela places on them and he should seriously question those who give him the kind of background information which leads him to make these kind of serious errors of judgement," he said.

"Where Dr Mandela asks, is your hand of friendship?" Buthelezi, political leader of South Africa's biggest tribe, has substantial support in the white community because of his opposition to economic sanctions against Pretoria and to strikes and consumer boycotts. (Reuter)

Mandela release one step ahead: Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Friday Nelson Mandela's release marks an important step in efforts to end apartheid, but stressed the need to continue pushing for human rights in South Africa.

"It is now a practical possibility that, working together, the people of South Africa will be able to establish a non-racial democracy with equal rights for all," Perez de Cuellar said. "That has been a primary aim of the United Nations, and its realisation is now within reach."

The UN chief made his comments during a meeting of the UN special committee against apartheid called to mark the release of the anti-apartheid leader after 27 years of imprisonment in South Africa.

"The liberation of Nelson Mandela is not an end in itself, but a milestone in the democratic process which must lead to the liberation of the people of South Africa from the system of apartheid," Perez de Cuellar said. (AP)

Winnie Mandela becomes a wife: After more than 30 years of marriage, Winnie Mandela is finally learning to live with her husband.

"I've been giving orders, and now I have to take them," Mrs Mandela said with a laugh during an interview Thursday in the couple's home in Soweto.

Mrs Mandela, a social worker, married Nelson Mandela in 1958 when she was 24 and he was a 40-year-old African National Congress leader on trial for treason.

He was acquitted in 1960, went underground a year later, was arrested in 1962 and remained in prison until Sunday. During his more than 27 years in jail, Mrs Mandela raised their two daughters alone and became a forceful and controversial anti-apartheid activist in her own right. (AP)

to life while it remains illegal to breathe, eat and drink," an ANC source said.

Mandela, 71, said this week the removal of these restrictive laws would break down obstacles to talks. "These are the obstacles holding us up. However, I think the atmosphere may be conducive to negotiations," he added.

Western diplomats held out hope of a compromise on

negotiations. "It is very certain that the two groups will have to reach some form of compromise. The ANC does not have to be greedy in its demands and the South African government has to give away quite a bit," one said.

Mandela said yesterday he is ready to meet De Klerk to try to launch talks on resolving South Africa's racial conflict.

Charles fails to score, but team wins

VERO BEACH, Florida, Feb 17, (AP): Prince Charles didn't score, but his team won the first of two polo matches the heir to the British throne is to play this weekend for charity.

Nearly 2,000 polo fans and royalists came out to see the 40-year-old Prince of Wales and his Windsor Park teammates defeat Canada's Maple Leaf squad 11-7 yesterday afternoon at the Windsor Park Polo Club, located about 10 miles (16 kilometers) north of Vero Beach in the community of Orchid.

The prince arrived in Vero Beach yesterday under the watchful eyes of British and US security officers. The polo match was his first public appearance in a week-long visit to the United States.

New El Nino caution Climate change forecast

WASHINGTON, Feb 17, (AP): Government scientists say changing water temperatures in the tropical Pacific Ocean may be signalling the start of a new El Nino that could cause powerful climate changes world-wide.

Current conditions resemble those of 1986, a relatively mild version of El Nino, which has caused widespread devastating weather in the past.

"The current situation deserves very close attention," the federal climate analysis centre said in a statement yesterday.

The El Nino in 1982-83 led to weather changes that were blamed for 1,500 deaths and billions of dollars in damage across the globe.

"We don't want to say something is developing that could be like that, because that was exceptional," Dr Vernon Kousky of the climate centre said in a telephone interview.

The 1982-83 El Nino was blamed for worsening the devastating drought in Africa, causing severe winter storms to come ashore in California, spawning the first typhoon to strike French Polynesia in 75 years — followed by five more in five months — deluging Peru and Ecuador to torrential rains and promoting the worst drought in two centuries in Australia.

The United Nations estimated overall damage at \$2 billion and \$8 billion.

Scientists suggest that was a once-in-a-lifetime event, however. The El Nino in 1986-87 was closer in average, bringing some weather changes but not the massive damage of the earlier event.

Formally called El Nino-Southern Oscillations, or ENSOs, these events are characterized by unusually warm water conditions in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean and changes in air pressure over different parts of that ocean.

Water temperatures have risen 1 and 2 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. While that may seem small, the great amount of energy needed to warm such a large mass of water can make it a significant increase.

Years ago, when such changes tended to be the first noticed by South American fishermen around Christmas, the phenomenon was given the name El Nino, which is Spanish for child, a reference to the Baby Jesus.

Current conditions are similar to those prior to the 1986 event, said Kousky. But he added: "I can't really say how firm it looks... There is nothing to say this will hang in there tough and continue on. We're just monitoring it carefully."

If it does build into a full-fledged El Nino, the impact could be felt worldwide.

The problem is relocating warm water from one side of the Pacific Ocean to the other.



Martin with his youngest son Alex (Reuter wirephoto)

Ransom paid for freedom

PAMPLONA, Spain, Feb 17, (Reuters): A ransom of 300 million pesetas (£1.5 million) was paid for a kidnapped Spanish businessman held by Basque separatists for 84 days, state security officials said today.

Industrialist Adolfo Villalobos Martin, 49, was in good health after an ordeal confined in a small room, apparently below ground, in this town 400 km (250 miles) northeast of Madrid.

The businessman, who is married with three children, hitchhiked home after untangling himself from a tree where his ETA (Basque homeland and freedom) kidnappers had left him yesterday.

Officials said the ransom was paid in foreign currency in Brussels, through a company owned by the Villalobos family, but gave no further details. Villalobos' family has yet to confirm any ransom was paid.

The head of the Navarra government, Jesus Garcia Villalobos, expressed concern today at the payment to ETA, fearing the money would be used to buy arms.

"This man is free because he has paid money and everyone knows what this will be used for," he told journalists.

Villalobos was released as ETA leaders sought to reopen negotiations with the Madrid government, stalled after three months of talks in Algiers last year.

Labour leads Tories in polls

LONDON, Feb 17, (Kuna): The British opposition Labour Party has increased its lead over the ruling Conservative Party to 12 percentage points, according to the latest opinion poll published here today.

The poll, conducted by NOP for the independent newspaper and BBC television, gave Labour 48 per cent, the Conservatives 36 per cent, the Liberal Democrats six per cent, the Green Party five per cent, the Social Democratic Party three per cent and others two per cent.

Train, tractor crash, 3 dead

At least three people were killed and several others wounded when the train "Gallo" collided with a small tractor with two wagons and derailed Friday morning in the Valais.

Composed uniquely of sleeping compartments, the "Gallo" was cruising at 120 km per hour at the time of the accident at the entry of the train station of Saxon.

Six wagons of the "Gallo" derailed and overturned.

The tractor, used for maintenance work on rail 1, which is reserved for direct passages.

Picture shows pedestrians on an overpass looking down at the twisted wreckage of "Gallo". (Reuter wirephoto)

INDULGE IN A LUXURIOUS BEAUTY ESCAPE WITH

AL-MIRWAD BEAUTY SALON

صالون المروج لتجهيز السيدات

AT AL-SURRAH COOPERATIVE SOCIETY



Treat your skin to the luxury it deserves. Relax and enjoy a personalised skincare treatment, in the privacy of

AL-MIRWAD BEAUTY SALON

at Surrah Cooperative Society. From a precise analysis of your skin's needs, we'll treat you to deep cleansing, refining and a gentle facial massage. Experience the benefits of our advanced skincare expert with the exclusive most modern skincare device.

And, luxuriate in refreshed, newly-radiant looks.

Book your appointment on 5332861 or 5332183, 4, 5

WORKING HOURS

The salon is open 7 days a week

From 9:00 am — 8:00 pm.



Doi casts an absentee ballot at a polling station. (Reuter wirephoto)



Hamada waves to supporters. (Reuter wirephoto)

90 million Japanese go to polls today

LDP heading for victory

Hamadas' debate reform

Wife wants to create second conservative party

TOKYO, Feb 17. (Reuter): Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, shrugging off scandals over money and sex, headed for a national election victory on Sunday that would extend its 34-year hold on power.

Big gains in Parliament were also predicted for the Japan Socialist Party, headed by Takako Doi, Japan's first woman political leader.

The conservative, pro-business government party appeared set for a clear majority as the election campaign ended today.

An eve-of-poll voter survey published by the daily Asahi Shimbun showed nearly 40 per cent ready to back the LDP, more than at the last lower house election in 1986, when the party held power in a landslide with 295 out of a total 512 seats.

But the Asahi poll of more than 100,000 voters also projected major advance for the JSP, the main opposition group. Analysts said it should win at least 130 seats.

The left-wing party held just 85 seats when Parliament was dissolved last month but the predicted gain would not be enough on its own to wrest power from the LDP.

About 90 million are eligible to vote on Sunday in 130 constituencies across the country. Voting begins at 7 am (2200 GMT Saturday) and ends at 6 pm (0900 GMT Sunday).

First returns are expected from around 7.30 pm (1030 GMT) on Sunday and computer projections of the results could be available as early as 10.30 pm (1330 GMT).

KAL, Aeroflot accord reached

SEOUL, Feb 17. (AP): South Korea and the Soviet Union have agreed to start passenger air service to each other's capitals next month, the South Korean government announced today.

The agreement marked a major step toward improving relations between the two countries, which have no diplomatic relations.

The Transportation Ministry announced that it has approved an air accord that Korean Air (KAL) concluded with the Soviet state airliner, Aeroflot.

10 pc US troops cut in Japan

Cheney to tell Tokyo of long-term plan

TOKYO, Feb 17. (Reuter): US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney will tell Japan during a visit next week he plans a 10 per cent cut in US troop strength here, Kyodo News Agency reported today, quoting government sources.

Cheney is due in Tokyo from the Philippines on Tuesday on the last leg of an Asian visit.

He confers on Thursday with Juro Matsumoto, director general of Japan's defence agency (ministry).

Cheney was expected to tell Matsumoto the United States would withdraw gradually about 5,000 troops or 10 per cent of total US troops

strength in Japan over an extended period, Kyodo said.

The defence secretary is under pressure from Congress to reduce military spending, and officials say he has plans for 10 to 12 per cent cut in the 102,000 US troops in the Pacific region.

Kyodo said the withdrawal would not reduce any military deterrence as it will exclude frontline troops.

Matsumoto would express Japan's hope that the US policy would not adversely affect the strategic and functional role of its forces in Japan, it added.



Khun Sa (Reuter wirephoto)

Opium king Khun Sa fights for control

MAE AI, Thai-Burmese border, Feb 17. (Reuter): Opium warlord Khun Sa is fighting new threats to his control over smuggling routes in the Golden Triangle, which had a bumper drug crop last year.

Thai border patrol police say rival bandit armies have stepped up attacks on drug-trafficking routes in the area in the past several weeks to try to seize control of a major exit point for last year's record production of opium, which is refined into heroin.

"This is our last shot at cleaning up the resistance," said

Colonel Khaun Sai, foreign affairs co-ordinator for Khun Sa's Muang Tai Army (MTA). Bandit armies have been fighting for decades for control over the Golden Triangle, straddling remote and unpoliced corners of Thailand, Laos, Burma and China.

Breakaway elements of the Burma Communist Party, scattered and driven into exile in 1988-89 by a government campaign, have regrouped with Wa ethnic rebels to try to wrest control of trafficking routes from the MTA.

The two sides have been

locked in combat for the past few weeks over the exit at Maungtun (Doi Lang) just inside Burma, thought to be the Golden Triangle's main gateway.

New smuggling routes and big poppy harvests in this mountainous jungle have re-established South-East Asia as the main source of heroin reaching the West, narcotics experts in Thailand say. Opium is made from the poppy flower.

Thai narcotics officials said last year's opium crop reached 1,200 tonnes, and may double this year.

They blamed American cuts in

aid to Rangoon after the Burmese army squashed a nation-wide uprising in 1988. Increased tension in Burmese cities and a guerrilla war in the south had also diverted resources from the area, they said.

The mainly ethnic Shan MTA claims to have built up its strength from 8,000 in 1985 to nearly 20,000 at present.

Chin Meng, spokesman for the United Wa States Army (UWSA), said 4,000 Wa troops were sent into the area to capture one of Khun Sa's three major strongholds at Doi Lang, opposite Chiang Mai province.

TOKYO, Feb 17. (AP): An ethics committee of Tokyo University Medical Science Research Institute approved a plan today to perform a liver transplant involving a brain-dead donor, the committee chairman said.

Prof. Kazuya Yamanouchi, who heads the seven-member ethics committee, told a nationally televised news conference his committee hopes the action would stir public concern and build "social consensus" to recognise brain death.

Japanese doctors have long avoided undertaking organ transplants because Japanese law does not recognise brain death, blocking the supply of transplantable organs.

Brain death is a condition in which all functions of the brain are determined to have irreversibly ceased. Yamanouchi said liver for transplantation must be obtained from a brain-dead donor because freshness is crucial to such an operation.

The planned liver transplant can now be performed as soon as such a donor is available, officials of the medical

Filipino Muslims vote amid violence

Attempt to end insurgency by allowing more local rule

MANILA, Feb 17. (Agencies): Voters in Muslim-dominated southern provinces went to the polls yesterday to elect their first autonomous Muslim government, despite a wave of bombings, political brawls and ballot theft.

The elections are being held under a plan by President Corazon Aquino to meet popular demand and blunt a Muslim insurgency in the region by allowing more local rule.

Four candidates were running for regional governor, seven for vice-governor, and 137 for 21 assembly seats in four Muslim-dominated provinces in the south, according to commission on election records.

The four provinces — Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Tawi-Tawi and Sulu —

voted to join the regional government in a referendum covering 13 southern provinces and cities in November.

A bomb exploded on the eve of the polls, and another blast occurred an hour before polling stations opened today at 7 am in the town of Jolo, 960 kilometres (600 miles) south of Manila, said Maj. Hermogenes Esperon, a spokesman for the military's southern command.

No one was reported injured, and no one has claimed responsibility for the bombings.

"We hope that with the assurance of the armed forces ... this election will be a clean and credible one," said commission on elections executive director Vicente

Cheney plays down snub

HONG KONG, Feb 17. (AP): US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said today he plans to play down his highly publicised spat with Philippine President Corazon Aquino and focus on "the things that unite us" during his talks next week in Manila.

"I would hope that any unpleasantness is minimised," Cheney said during an interview aboard the US air force jet carrying him to this British colony from Seoul, South Korea.

Cheney's schedule today included lunch with Hong Kong Gov. Sir David Wilson. He planned to meet tomorrow with the US Ambassador to the Philippines, Nicholas Platt, before travelling to Manila on Monday.

About 50 armed men ambushed and killed a police station commander and eight of his officers this morning and then fled with the slain officers' firearms, an official said.

A policeman who survived the attack fired at the assailants, wounding some of them, said Leo Zaragoza, vice-mayor of nearby Kapatawan town, about 808 kilometres (505 miles) southeast of Manila.

Zaragoza, interviewed on radio station DXBB, quoted police investigators as saying the victims were responding to a report of a last night robbery in a village outside Kapatawan.

He said about 50 armed men positioned along the highway fired at the policeman's jeep as it passed through the village of Margos at about 7.20 and today (2320 GMT yesterday), killing the nine men. Among those killed was station commander police Cpl Arturo Trabaga.

The military has identified the area as being infiltrated by the Communist New People's Army.

Government troops have been sent to pursue the attackers.

In other violence, the state-run Philippines news agency reported today that six communist rebels and four soldiers were killed in a clash last Thursday in the central Philippine island of Samar.

In other development, military authorities, using bomb-sniffing dogs, imposed tight security around the Philippine Military Academy for tomorrow's graduation rites where Aquino is to be the main guest, the academy superintendent said.

The defence secretary pointed out that his discussions came at a crucial juncture in US-Philippine relations, with talks expected to open next month on renewal of the leases for Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Base and several other military posts.

"We've got major negotiations about to begin with the Philippines on the bases," he said.

Today, Cheney characterised his Manila visit as "an important stop."

The defence secretary pointed out that his discussions came at a crucial juncture in US-Philippine relations, with talks expected to open next month on renewal of the leases for Clark Air Base, Subic Naval Base and several other military posts.

"I think the things that unite us, that we've got in common, are a good deal more significant than any momentary stress in the relationship," Cheney said: "I would expect to focus on and emphasise those things — (such as) the historic ties between our two countries."

Cheney said he would be deliberately "tried to respond in a very low-key fashion to Aquino's decision not to receive me ... I think the president has tried to keep all of that on an even keel as well."

US President George Bush issued a rare public rebuke to Aquino for refusing to meet with his defence secretary, saying in an interview that "she can learn a great deal from Dick Cheney about the way we view the very important US presence in the Pacific."

Cheney said he intended to stress that despite the rumblings from Congress for troop cuts and sharply reduced military budgets, "our interests in the region will continue."

TOKYO university recognises brain death



Delegates of the Chinese and Hong Kong Basic Law drafting committee pose for a photograph to commemorate the drafting of the future constitution of Hong Kong. At the front from left to right are President Deng Xiaoping, senior leader Deng Xiaoping, Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng. (Reuter wirephoto)

Deng praises HK drafters

Hurd faces questioning

BEIJING, Feb 17. (AP): Senior leader Deng Xiaoping of China today met with the authors of Hong Kong's proposed constitution for Chinese rule and called their work "a masterpiece of creativity."

Deng, whose last public appearance was nearly a month ago, made the comment during a brief meeting with drafters of the document, called the basic law.

The 51-member committee, appointed in 1985 by the Beijing government, this week completed the final law draft, which now goes to China's legislature, the National People's Congress, for approval.

"This is a historical event, not just for the present but for the future, not just for the Third World but for all of mankind," Deng said. "Such a document is a masterpiece of creativity."

Deng met once before with the drafting committee — in April 1987, just after the pro-democracy student protests of the winter of 1986-87.

During the meeting, he emphasised the need for stability, and warned that after 1997, "if (people) try to turn Hong Kong into a base of opposition to the mainland in the name of 'democracy' ... we will definitely interfere."

He also said general elections and "Western democracy" were not suitable for Hong Kong, while "keeping certain power for the central government will benefit Hong Kong and bring it no harm."

However, many Hong Kong residents fear the new constitution will not go far enough in forcing China to keep its promises of allowing the capitalist system to remain for 50 years after the 1997 takeover and of letting Hong Kong exercise a high degree of autonomy.

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

About 1,500 students chanting pro-democracy slogans and carrying placards marched to the Chinese diplomatic mission, and the government announced plans to sharply increase the pace of democratic development next year.

Confidence in China's promises plummeted after the June 4 military crackdown on China's pro-democracy movement, which was widely supported in Hong Kong.

He alluded to the lack of confidence Hong Kong residents have in the document's ability to help the territory maintain its capitalist system and a high degree of autonomy.

Confidence in China's promises plummeted after the June 4 military crackdown on China's pro-democracy movement, which was widely supported in Hong Kong.

In Hong Kong on Friday, the passage of the final basic law draft was greeted with renewed demands for a faster pace of democratisation.

About 1,500 students chanting pro-democracy slogans and carrying placards marched to the Chinese diplomatic mission, and the government announced plans to sharply increase the pace of democratic development next year.

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."

In London, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd faced a barrage of hostile questions in Parliament on Friday and said the constitution was "not ideal" but a "reasonable ... basis for the future."



Ryzhkov listens intently to reporters' questions during a press conference in Singapore. (Reuter wirephoto)

Soviets back UN plan for Cambodia

SINGAPORE, Feb 17. (UPI): Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov said today he would welcome a UN interim administration in Cambodia, but refused to hint aid to Phnom Penh as long as other countries send aid to the rebels.

In a wide-ranging news conference marking the conclusion of his visit to the Asia-Pacific region, Ryzhkov said the Soviet Union was anxious to beef up trade and economic co-operation with the region.

Most of his comments focused on Cambodia, where a loose alliance of three resistance groups is attempting to reach a peace settlement with the Vietnamese-backed government, which took power in 1978 after Vietnam overthrew the Khmer Rouge regime of Pol Pot.

"We stand for a political settlement" to end the 11-year-old conflict, Ryzhkov said. "We will support arms supplies providing reciprocal steps are taken by the others."

One of the resistance groups, loyal to exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk, has been receiving military backing from China and non-lethal assistance from the United States.

Sihanouk has rejected the Soviet proposal to unilaterally halt arms supplies on all sides, saying it would be impossible to stop secret shipments from Vietnam to the Phnom Penh government.

The Cambodian factions, along with the six nations belonging to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Vietnam and Laos meet in Jakarta next week for peace talks.

Two earlier attempts to settle the dispute in Jakarta and Paris failed to make any significant headway, but Vietnam recently indicated it would be willing to accept a UN presence in Cambodia. The role of the United Nations had been a major stumbling block in the ongoing discussions.

The foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations endorsed a standing Australian plan for ending the war in Cambodia.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told reporters that he and his counterparts from the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei and Singapore had endorsed the initiative.

Jakarta plotters executed

JAKARTA, Feb 17. (AP): Four former members of the Indonesian palace guards under the late President Sukarno have been executed for their involvement in a failed coup attempt 25 years ago, a government spokesman said today.

Gen. Nurhadi Purwoesuparto, spokesman for the Indonesian armed forces, confirmed that Soleman, Noor Tohajaya, Satar Suryatno and Yohannes Surono had been put to death last Tuesday.

All were arrested following the abortive communist coup on Sept. 30, 1965. They were charged with kidnapping and killing Gen. Ahmad Yani, head of the army.

Officials gave no reason why the four remained on death row for 25 years, but delays in carrying out earlier executions were said to have been made to allow time for the accused to divulge information about their subversive activities.

In Washington, D.C., Asia Watch, a US-based human rights organization, asked world leaders today to condemn the executions.

Romanian defence chief forced to quit

New minister is choice of military

BUCHAREST, Feb 17. (AP): Defence Minister Victor Anasate Stanculescu, who took over the military today, was the choice of officers who forced the resignation of his predecessor, Nicolae Militaru.

The shakeup last night climaxed a week-long protests by junior and middle-level officers demanding the dismissal of 74-year-old Militaru, who, for years followed orders from Nicolae Ceausescu, the communist dictator toppled in December.

On Thursday night, state-run television broadcast a frank but edited tape of talks between Deputy Prime Minister Gelu Voiculescu and 58 officers from 38 units who presented a list of 13 demands, including Militaru's resignation.

At one point, Voiculescu asked the officers who they would want as defence chief if not

Militaru. They said Stanculescu, a lieutenant general who was minister of national economy.

Interim President Ion Iliescu's announcement that he had accepted a request to remove Militaru and had appointed Stanculescu to replace him did not say who would succeed Stanculescu at the Ministry of National Economy.

The announcement defused the first challenge by the military to the government it helped create in December's revolution.

The 21-member executive bureau of the ruling Council of National Unity, at its first meeting yesterday, endorsed the creation of a commission to investigate all the officers' demands and expressed hope that the measures taken by the government would restore calm. Iliescu heads the bureau.

Thousands of civilians had flocked to Victory Square in

Bucharest to support the officers, whose decision to back the popular uprising in December was crucial to winning the revolution. Similar demonstrations were held in the western city of Timisoara and the port of Constanta.

The newspaper *Tineretul Liber* reported today that a big demonstration backing the officers was also held in Brasov, Romania's second-largest city, yesterday. Protesters shouted, "The army is with us, and we are with army" and "where are Brasov's terrorists?"

The newspaper *Adevărul* reported today that before Iliescu's announcement, the national news agency *Rompres* had received a statement from the military central command's key committee of initiative backing the officers' call for Militaru's



Stanculescu at a press conference.



A worker raises his list to protest against the new Romanian government and the introduction of their policies during a demonstration in Bucharest.

■ An AIDS epidemic among Romanian children has reached critical proportions, with at least 200 suffering from the disease and 800 infected with the virus that causes it, a senior Red Cross official said in Geneva.

Recalled to active duty during the revolution.

Navy officers from Tulcea in the Danube Delta also backed the officers, the newspaper *Romania Liberal* reported.

One Germany without Nato

Soviet term for unity

WEST BERLIN, Feb 17. (Agencies): A top-ranking adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said today "there won't be any German unification" if the West insists on a Nato membership for the combined German states.

The questions of Nato membership and the German military stance have become increasingly important as officials try to work out the details for reunifying East and West Germany.

"If the Western alliance sticks with its demand for a Nato membership of all of Germany, then there won't be any German unification," Valentin Falin said in an interview with Saarland state radio.

Falin called on Western nations to ensure peace in Europe.

"We are talking about doing away with the military factor in Europe overall," said Falin.

West German officials, pushing ahead with plans for German unification, have proposed a 16-state federal system and a defense strategy linked to continued membership in Nato.

"Defense obligations are indivisible and cannot be weakened for a whole Germany," Defense Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said Friday, adding that military integration will be an initial step.

Stoltenberg said a cornerstone of the plan being discussed in his ministry was membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Stoltenberg said defence officials of East Germany and West Germany will meet after the East German elections March 18 to work out a joint security policy. He said the continued presence of Soviet troops in what is now East Germany was open to discussion.

He raised the possibility of a "transitional phase" in which the West German and East German armies would co-operate while retaining their own command structures. But he also said, "we are not going to have two different armed forces in the united Germany for long."

In Brussels, Nato and Soviet parliamentarians met yesterday to discuss the future of Europe, but instead found themselves reopening the wounds of the past over the German reunification question.

The intense, and sometimes acrimonious debate indicated the problems facing the four World War Two allied powers and the two Germanys in talks on unification.

Falin, a member of the Supreme Soviet, said his country lost more than 26 million people in World War Two — a figure he said had never been made public.

"If you do not take this into account, you will not be able to understand our present, nor our future."

His remarks clearly reflected the Soviet position that a reunified Germany should be neutral to meet Moscow's long-standing security interests.

Both Nato and Bonn have rejected this and said it must be in the Western alliance.

In East Berlin, the interim communist-led government said it was preparing a law that would allow private companies in such sectors as construction, transport, tourism and small- and middle-sized factories.

West Germany has urged East Germany to introduce comprehensive free-market reforms before giving more aid to the economically strapped neighbour.

The push for quick unification is worrying some states that suffered occupation by Nazi Germany, such as Poland.

Poland has asked to be included in talks on German unification between the two German states and the four World War II allies — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France.

East German Premier Hans Modrow on Friday endorsed the Polish request during a visit to Warsaw.

Bush signs bill on China

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Feb 17. (AP): US President George Bush, in a new clash with Congress over China policy, says he'll ignore an act that he considers an infringement on his right to conduct diplomacy.

Bush late Friday signed a \$9.8-billion State Department spending bill that reinforces sanctions on China and requires that Congress be notified when such secret missions as National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft's visit last June to Beijing are undertaken.

The President, at his oceanside home for a three-day weekend, signed the bill but voiced serious objections to those sections and several others which he said raised "constitutional difficulties."

The constitution gives the president exclusive power to receive and appoint ambassadors and to conduct negotiations on behalf of the United States with foreign governments," Bush told Congress.

The overall legislation authorizes \$4.8 billion for the State Department and related agencies for the fiscal year that began last Oct 1, and another \$5 billion for fiscal 1991.

Bush vetoed an earlier version of the legislation, not only because of the China sanctions, but due to an amendment that would have prohibited the administration from seeking third-country financing of insurgent groups, such as the Nicaraguan rebels, known as Contras.

Congress dropped that proposal from the current legislation. US support of the Contras was phased out under a bipartisan accord with Congress.

The bill writes into law sanctions identical to those Bush imposed on China after last June's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing, including a ban on military sales to China and restrictions on trade and loans.

"Legislatively mandated sanctions represent an unwise constraint upon the president's ability to conduct foreign policy," Bush contended.

However, Bush signed the bill with the assertion he would not follow sections he considered unconstitutional.

He noted the legislation allows him to waive sanctions on grounds of "national interest" and suggested this clause put enough flexibility into the measure to allow it to escape a veto.

The sanctions remain in effect for now and Bush has no immediate plans to lift them, said deputy press secretary Stephen Hart.

Bush said he would disobey the section of the legislation that would require the State Department to give Congress a full report on any politically sensitive secret diplomatic contacts.

■ China said it will never accept the Dalai Lama's attempt to establish an "independent Tibet," stressing there is no room for bargaining on the issue.

Mongolia pulls down Stalin bust

ULAN BATOR, Feb 17. (Reuter): Mongolia's communist government has decided to remove the last statue of hated Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin from an Ulan Bator street, signalling another concession to democratic demands sweeping this remote land.

The official Uren newspaper said today the decision to cart away a huge black statue of the dictator was taken by the ruling communist politburo in democratic considerations of the people's wishes.

"The statue has received much displeasure from the public," said the newspaper. "According to the principles of justice and democracy it will be pulled down."

The Polburo's move was the latest in a series of government concessions to a wave of popular demand for deep political and economic changes to Mongolia's 68-year-old communist system.

A newly-formed Mongolian Democratic Association will hold its first Congress tomorrow, at which some 500 nation-wide delegates are expected to make radical demands and proclaim themselves Mongolia's first opposition party.

Western diplomats said the ruling Mongolian People's Revolution Party has been reforming fast in an attempt to narrow differences between their policies and the emerging opposition manifesto.

Mongolia, a land of just over two million people living on territory three times the size of France, is the second oldest communist country and the latest of the Soviet Union's allies to feel the winds of democratic change.

Soviet troops patrol the streets of Dushanbe. (Reuter wirephoto)

Parliament to debate unrest

Samarkand riot denied

MOSCOW, Feb 17. (Agencies): The Communist Party chief in Samarkand today denied a report by state-run Radio Moscow that rioting in Soviet Central Asia had spread to the ancient city of Uzbekistan.

The Radio Moscow broadcast said members of the Muslim majority fought ethnic Armenians.

The report, aired on Radio Moscow's international English-language service late Friday, came after a week of unrest in the neighbouring Soviet republic of Tajikistan, where 20 people were killed and 568 wounded by Interior Ministry count.

Nasir Yakubov, the first party secretary of Samarkand, told the Associated Press by telephone that the city was quiet, there were no riots and no curfew was imposed.

He said the city's 12,000 Armenian residents live in peace with members of other ethnic groups.

Asatulyo Yusupov, a duty officer at the Interior Ministry office in Samarkand, also denied the radio report.

Radio Moscow reported Friday that the Interior Ministry sent troop reinforcements to Samarkand and ordered residents to remain in their homes after dark. Despite those measures, the radio said, rallies and demonstrations continued.

The report was sent via facsimile to subscribing Western news services, a joint venture affiliated with Radio Moscow, as the source of its information.

No other state-run Soviet news media carried the report, which did not mention casualties or damage in Samarkand, or mention of colourfully tiled buildings, domed mosques and oriental bazaars. It was the capital of a 14th-century empire established

by the Mongol conqueror Tamerlane, who was removed for his cruelty.

The ancient city, conquered by Alexander the Great in 329 BC, is about 1,700 miles (2,700 kms) southeast of Moscow and has a population of 390,000 mostly Muslims. The Armenian refugees are mainly Christians.

About 1,000 Armenians, an editor at Radio Moscow's central newsroom in Moscow acknowledged today that the radio had not been able to independently confirm details of the Interfax report.

Interfax reported Friday that "mass intercommunal riots have continued in Samarkand since yesterday, according to a spokesman for the informal democratic movement Uzbekistan, Marat Hojamhammadov. Radio Tashkent reported today that a curfew was introduced in Samarkand and interior troop reinforcements were sent in."

Ho said the city's 12,000 Armenian residents live in peace with members of other ethnic groups.

Local journalists in the Central Asian republic of Tajikistan predicted fresh unrest after local Communists refused to resign as their part of a deal aimed at ending riots which killed at least 18 people this week.

Soviet media said the situation was still tense in the Tajik capital, Dushanbe, with self-defence units patrolling the streets and industries at a standstill.

The report was sent via facsimile to subscribing Western news services, a joint venture affiliated with Radio Moscow, as the source of its information.

Attendance in schools throughout the province was low, as most ethnic Armenian students stayed away in a massive boycott of classes, the state Tanjug news agency reported.

Up to 1,000 schoolchildren, their hands raised in V-for-victory signs, marched peacefully through the town of Titova Mitrovia, some 45 kilometers (28 miles) north of Pristina, the provincial capital, local journalists said. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

Another 1,000 people took to the streets in Podujevo, 32 kilometers (20 miles) north of Pristina, demanding an end to a year-old state of emergency in their town, Belgrade radio reported.

Riot police were present but did not intervene to break up the protests, it said.

Podujevo was the focus of massive protests in Kosovo in January that claimed the lives of at least 26 Albanians.

People of Albanian origin make up 90 per cent of Kosovo's 1.9 million population.

At least 28 died to violence that erupted in the province last year, after constitutional changes limited the region's autonomy and gave Serbia, Yugoslavia's largest republic, near total control over the region.

Official announcement of the dedication, which closes a chapter in often-painful relations between Catholics and Jews, will be made following a meeting Monday between Poland's Prime Minister

Tadeusz Mazowiecki and WJC president Edgar Brozman, the group said.

The new centre will be located several hundred yards (metres) away from the death camp site, which has been enshrined as a memorial to the hundreds of thousands of Jews and others killed there by the Nazis.

French Bishop Gaston Poulaillon Friday announced a drive to raise funds among French Catholics for the interfaith centre. The WJC said.

She also said Gorb

Iqama rule relaxed for contracting sector

No change in other regulations

By Hussain Salameh

THE existing law which prohibits the transfer of residence permits of expatriate labourers working in the private sector before the completion of a three-year period, is to be relaxed, sources at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the committee formed to follow up the implementation of the economic report said.

However, they clarified that this relaxation is only applicable to the contracting sector and does not cover or include other sectors or other labour regulations introduced last year.

Sources at the committee said that the

Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour is currently implementing the called-for relaxation on visa transfer instituted by the government-sponsored economic revival proposals.

The economic report proposal called on the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to "review the ministry's decision on the regulations of the labour sector by introduction of a relaxation in transferring visas from one sponsor to another to facilitate work demands in the contracting sector in particular."

Transfers

The ministry sources explained that the new relaxation applies to a large number of contracting labourers who are recruited by

certain companies. If these companies after completion of their present project do not win other contracts, they can transfer their labourers to other companies without the need to abide by the three years limit for transfer specified by regulations.

According to labour regulations introduced by the ministry early last year, labourers recruited from abroad were required to work with their sponsors for at least three years prior to transferring to other sponsors. In case the project was completed before the three year period, the companies that recruited these workers had to send them back. Now this term has been relaxed to allow the transfer of contracting labourers to other companies in

Kuwait. The ministry sources affirmed that the economic report does not require the ministry to do more than this. The follow up committee of the economic report agreed that the ministry measure was pragmatic. It added that leaving the transfer of sponsorship in the private sector without restrictions will certainly create confusion in the market particularly to employers.

Sources at the committee said that the refusal of any ministry or establishment to implement proposals of the economic report is not ruled out. But, such applicants must explain in writing to the Council of Ministers their reasons, as the report has been approved by the council.

Kuwait in

Co-op talks with Dadzie

GENEVA, Feb 17, (Kuna): Kuwait's Ambassador to Geneva Sheikh Salem Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah yesterday met with the secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Ucstad), K.S Dadzie.

As chairman of the Asian group in the Group of 77 developing countries, Dr Sabah said his meeting with the secretary general covered a number of issues before the organisation, especially those related to the forthcoming eighth conference of Ucstad.

Issues concerning ways of cooperation between the various groups of countries in Ucstad were also discussed, he pointed out.

Dr Sabah, who is also the chairman of the Arab group of ambassadors accredited to the United Nations in Geneva for this month, said the group will be calling on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Thornavald Stoltenberg next Thursday.

Asked about the issues to be discussed with the UNHCR, Dr Sabah said the Arab ambassadors will use the occasion to congratulate the high commissioner upon his assumption of office and also discuss matters of co-operation.

Meanwhile, general director of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) Frederick Meyer will commence official meetings today with Qatari officials in order to discuss means of co-operation in cultural fields between Qatar and Unesco.

Unesco's general director gave a statement upon his arrival at the airport last night, saying at the aim of his visit is to organise the needs of the state of Qatar from Unesco in the fields of culture, education and science.

Meyer described co-operation between Qatar and the organisation as historical and fruitful, and said that Qatar is an active participant in the activities of Unesco.



Congratulations Palala

The Consul-General of the Philippines Embassy, Kuwait, Ms. Olivia V. Palala Wednesday hosted a reception to say thank you to friends who congratulated her on her recent promotion to the post. Ms. Palala is a popular figure in the Filipino community and is one of the youngest diplomats at the embassy. Ms. Palala is pictured with some of the friends who attended the reception at the Mabuhay Restaurant.

From the courts

Jewel thieves get five years

THE Criminal Court sentenced two men to five years imprisonment with hard labour and ordered their deportation. Another accused in the same case was released by the court. The three men were charged with robbing a house of KD50,000 worth of jewellery.

Security investigations revealed that the daughter of the victim was involved in a relationship with one of the accused. The convict proposed to his girlfriend through her mother and was refused. The daughter of the mother's victim told the court that one day when she was at the club, she had lost the keys of the house where she is living with her mother. Investigations revealed that the convict had stolen his girlfriend house keys and made a copy in order to use them in the robbery.

The stolen jewellery was given to the second convict by the first convict and was kept at the third accused's house. The third convict did know that the jewellery were stolen and therefore was released by the court.

■ THE Court of First Instance has ordered a local company to return the passport of one of its workers after he was dismissed from the services of the company.

The company had terminated the employee's

services, but refused to hand over his passport and the worker had moved the court.

The court in its decision said that according to the new labour law in the private sector as of 1989, the employer has no right to withhold the passport of any worker in the private sector.

Only the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour has this right and accordingly the court ordered the employer to return the plaintiff's passport.

■ KUWAIT'S Criminal Court refrained from passing sentence against an accused on charges of taking nine valium tablets, a local daily reported.

The court was told that after a quarrel between a woman and her husband, the former went into her father-in-laws room and consumed nine valium tablets and was found in a coma.

The father-in-law reported the incident to the police and attested that he was in possession of the valium through a medical prescription provided to him by the Al Sabah Hospital and produced the medical report.

The court took into consideration that the woman was suffering from a malignant tumour which was further aggravated with the state of her mind due to the recent quarrel and saw these as mitigating circumstances in refraining from passing judgement.

The company had terminated the employee's

Iraqi labour minister arrives

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (Kuna): Iraqi Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Dr Omeed Medhat Mubarak arrived in Kuwait before noon today on a three-day official visit.

In a press statement upon his arrival, Dr Omeed said he is carrying wellwishes from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah and the government and people of Kuwait.

Dr Omeed expected the meetings he is to hold today with his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed to have positive and fruitful results in the fields of exchange of expertise and co-operation and co-ordination in the activities of specialised and Arab and international organisations.

Co-operation is under way in all fields and Sheikh Nasser is regularly consulted on all issues of interest to the people of both countries, said Dr Omeed.

Education staff asked to vacate quarters

THE Education Ministry has issued a circular requesting some of its staff at the various administrative and technical departments to vacate their houses within a period not exceeding Feb 28. These houses were provided to them 10 years ago.

Ministry sources quoted by a local daily said that the ministry step was taken in response to a report by the Audit Bureau stating that the government houses provided to those ministry staff violated the enforced rules on government-supplied accommodations.

The sources pointed out that the once externally hired house-supplied staff would not be treated as locally-contracted employees, adding that the concerned staff were to furnish the relevant paperwork and proceed with the ministry's furnishing and accommodation control before the date specified.

Meanwhile the director of Ahmadi educational area Abdulla Al Lagman has said that the area is increasing efforts to develop the educational standards of pupils on the light of results of the first term of this scholastic year. Among the various efforts in this direction, the area will organise a series of meetings between him and the headmasters of schools, organise field visits to schools and focus on activating intensive classes for pupils who need specialisation and Arab and international organisations.

He added that Ahmadi area will take part in celebrations of the National Day and an exhibition for photography and another one for formative arts will be organised on the occasion. The two exhibits will display the products and works of pupils in all schools of Ahmadi area and prizes will be given to winners. The area will also organise Wafaa Day under the patronage of the education minister which will include educational and entertainment programmes, he said.

Co-operation is under way in all fields and Sheikh Nasser is regularly consulted on all issues of interest to the people of both countries, said Dr Omeed.

In Saudi Arabia drug addicts have hope, smugglers face death

11 people executed this year, 99 in 1989

Friday.

The kingdom has executed at least 11 people so far this year and 99 in 1989, many on drug related charges.

Colonel Mohammed Assad Al Maleki, director of Jeddah's Narcotics Department, said the problem first arose from the oil boom of the 1970s that brought many Gulf Arabs untold wealth.

Decrease

The death penalty, he said, had led to a sharp and tangible decrease in the volume of narcotics smuggled into the country.

Figures were not available, but diplomats said they believed the quantity of drugs being brought into Saudi Arabia had diminished since the death penalty came into effect.

But it was still a problem and Saudi Arabia was in the early stages of grappling with its impact on society.

"We consider that we are starting to face the problem," Maleki told Reuters.

He said two hospitals had been built in Dammam and Riyadh specifically to treat addicts, and a third was about to be inaugurated in Jeddah. The clinics were called "Al Amal" or hope.

"We consider addicts to be sick people and victims of the smugglers and dealers," Maleki said. "We are launching a ferocious (law and order) campaign... the amounts of drugs we have seized show we are on the right track."

Most drugs were smuggled into Saudi Arabia from Pakistan and Afghanistan, a source of hashish and high-grade heroin which drug enforcement officials call the golden crescent.

Illicit substances discovered by police in the kingdom were usually opium, heroin and hashish.

Local media reports suggest that Saudi Arabia's youth formed the most vulnerable social group and young travellers to the United States and Asia were particularly at risk.

In a series of full-page articles published over three days, the daily Al Riyadh newspapers quoted youths imprisoned for drug offences about the reasons for their involvement.

A loosening of traditional family authority, an over-abundance of wealth, low self-esteem, a lack of spiritual values, too much spare time and harmful associations with expatriates were among the reasons cited in the interviews.

Changes in housing policy to be adopted

Citizens warned against leasing

THE problem of providing housing to citizens will increase according to numerous studies that have been conducted and which are heavily influenced by two factors: impact of present public housing policy including complete dependence of most citizens on the government for providing ready-to-use homes, lack of standardisation in the construction of new homes and the personal attitude of Kuwaitis toward the public-housing programme expressed as lack of positive involvement in the planning and construction phases of house.

The viewpoint that government housing represents an opportunity for ownership instead of its intended purpose of providing suitable family shelter, and misuse of the financial loans provided by government to eligible citizens for the purpose of remodelling existing homes, are also factors adding to the problem.

It is thus seen as inevitable that certain fundamental changes be adopted in the present policy in order to achieve overall improvements in the public housing programme.

The report was issued on the occasion of the country's National Day celebration with the aim of shedding light on performance of the state's bodies as part of several reports covering different fields.

The bureau was established in 1964 as an independent body for financial control.

Its responsibilities cover all ministries and public departments that make up the administrative apparatus of the state.

The independence of the bureau was meant to keep it away from any influence by the circles it controls in order to avert any pressure that may prejudice its performance as a control body.

The bureau is responsible for controlling tenders, agreements or contracts that may result in financial obligations on the state.

All government bodies are obliged by law not to commit themselves to any agreement without the approval of the bureau.

The bureau is a member of several regional and international organisations including the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions, the Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions and the Arab Working Group of Supreme Audit Institutions.

The bureau's chief Farsi Abdulla Al Roudhan said that modern audit bodies should not be captives of carrying out duties stipulated in their internal regulations, indicating the importance of benefiting from regional and international experience in the field.

Speaking to a local daily, Rabi'a said that the five-year planning system had proved its applicability and suitability to factors of speed and accuracy in the implementation of its plans due to the scarcity of appropriate land.

He added that the authority is planning to reconstruct the old Jabra area and also to construct three housing projects in this area.

He also praised the role of the

Ministry of Housing in the planning and implementation of its housing projects, the official said that the authority is hampered in the speedy implementation of its plans due to the scarcity of appropriate land.

He said that under the first five-year housing plan (1975-1980) the NHA sought to meet the housing requirements of citizens with limited incomes, whose estimated number of applications reached 22,000 and that this required the construction of 140,000 units.

He stressed that the building code, regulated the co-ordination and symmetrical building operations from an aesthetic viewpoint, highlighting that had it not been for that the result would be a state of obscured identity between investment, commercial and industrial buildings.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He said that the proposed vertical expansion of buildings would be confined to projects implemented inside the city, adding that the building density specified under the existing building code had been increased by 140 per cent.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He stressed that the building code, regulated the co-ordination and symmetrical building operations from an aesthetic viewpoint, highlighting that had it not been for that the result would be a state of obscured identity between investment, commercial and industrial buildings.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He said that the proposed vertical expansion of buildings would be confined to projects implemented inside the city, adding that the building density specified under the existing building code had been increased by 140 per cent.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He stressed that the building code, regulated the co-ordination and symmetrical building operations from an aesthetic viewpoint, highlighting that had it not been for that the result would be a state of obscured identity between investment, commercial and industrial buildings.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He said that the proposed vertical expansion of buildings would be confined to projects implemented inside the city, adding that the building density specified under the existing building code had been increased by 140 per cent.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He said that the proposed vertical expansion of buildings would be confined to projects implemented inside the city, adding that the building density specified under the existing building code had been increased by 140 per cent.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

He said that the proposed vertical expansion of buildings would be confined to projects implemented inside the city, adding that the building density specified under the existing building code had been increased by 140 per cent.

He added that the amendment made in the building code also included the elevations on buildings based on the construction sites and related setbacks to keep distances between neighbours.

Plax and oral hygiene market

Consumer awareness of the importance of good oral hygiene in the East has been on the increase. The market is forecast to be worth \$1.5 billion per annum (a 5 per cent growth) by the end of 1990.

By the leading pharmaceutical house, Pfizer Inc, Plax was launched in the USA in 1986 and is currently reflecting a 200 per cent annual growth at an estimated \$400 million at RSP, worldwide. Clearly, consumers are appreciating that allowing plaque (a film of bacteria) to form on teeth can lead to serious dental problems, such as gum disease, later in life. Plaque also causes tartar accumulation and

leads to a pre-washing rinse which directly removes plaque. It is a simple to use before brushing and works via penetrating and removing the film of plaque — which may then be brushed away.

Seudi Arabia uses the carpet and stick approach in its war on drugs. The carpet takes the form of an intensive publicity campaign about the disastrous personal impact of addiction, and the stick is the threat of execution for the drug smuggler or dealer.

The caravans are staffed by policemen, sociologists and religious scholars who have joined forces in an official onslaught against the scourge of drug abuse.

Saudi Arabia introduced the death penalty three years ago for people convicted of trafficking in illegal drugs. Three Pakistanis and a Somalian national convicted of smuggling heroin were publicly beheaded on

Friday.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

FROM the sublime to the ridiculous there is only one step — Napoleon Bonaparte, French general - statesman (1769-1821).

Proving Jewishness New obstacles for immigrants

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. (AP): Asya Gomelsky survived two pogroms in her 83 years. Never did she expect her Jewishness to be called into question in the Jewish state.

But this is what happened when Mrs Gomelsky's 50-year-old son Boris asked Israel's Interior Ministry for identity papers for his family. The Gomelskys, from the Soviet city of Kharkov, were turned away because they had no documents proving the family was Jewish.

Their story and similar tales surfacing with the new rush of Soviet immigrants have sparked protests by Soviet activists and complaints by four liberal parties over policies of the Interior Ministry, which is controlled by the ultra-orthodox Shas Party.

"Do you know what it is to question the Jewishness of those who have suffered for generations in the Soviet Union for being Jewish?" Robert Golani, head of a Soviet activist group, told the Jerusalem Post daily.

Mrs Gomelsky, who appeared on Israeli television this weekend, touched many Israelis with the tale of her sufferings during Russia's 1917 revolution and civil war.

"I survived two pogroms and was persecuted as a Jew, and here in Israel they tell me I'm not Jewish," Mrs Gomelsky wept. "In 1919 ... they wanted to rape my elder sister and when my father tried to protect her they cut him with sabers, and we ran away to hide in the fields."

After the TV broadcast, several ministers questioned Interior Minister Arye Deri, a member of Shas, in a cabinet meeting Sunday. Soviet activists warned the following day they would take to the streets over Deri's policies.

But a visit to Interior Ministry offices here showed several recent Soviet arrivals who came from identity cards still were being turned away under the same policy.

"Go home and come back when you have papers showing you are Jews," an official told them to the protests of Israeli's waiting in line.

Those rejected can get rent subsidies and other benefits as immigrants, but their ID cards do not say "Jewish." Without that word, the card's holder may have trouble with marriage, divorce or other personal matters controlled by the ultra-orthodox establishment.

For years, the Interior Ministry also has been ruled by the ultra-orthodox, for whom the mostly secular wave of Soviet Jews is a mixed blessing if not a direct threat.

The expected arrival of up to 300,000 Soviet Jews to the next three years could undermine Israel's delicate balance of power in which three ultra-orthodox parties and a religious one usually hold the key to forming coalition governments.

Neither of the country's two major parties, the right-wing Likud Bloc or centre-left Labour Party, have never won enough seats in the 12-member Parliament to govern on their own, meaning each scrambles to bring the religious parties into coalitions.

Over the years, Israel's religious community used this power to pass laws favouring the orthodox and enforce rules forcing businesses and entertainment spots to close on the sabbath, from sundown Friday till sundown Saturday.

The ultra-orthodox fear this may change with the Soviet Jewish immigration wave, which they claim includes many couples of mixed marriages and even non-Jews.

On mid-January, the ultra-orthodox Yom Hashishi weekly claimed that Israeli officials in Moscow "reject immigration requests of elderly religious Jews, preferring young intellectual couples in spite of a large percentage of mixed marriages among them."

"This selection will change to the coming years the face of the Israeli society," it charged.

Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer last week fuelled the controversy by saying up to 30 per cent of the Soviet immigrants were non-Jews trying to find a way to escape the Soviet Union.

Israel's law of return grants automatic citizenship to Jews — even descendants of a Jewish man — and their spouses, even if they are non-Jewish.

Dissolution urged

MOSCOW. (Reuter): The Soviet Union's once omnipotent Communist Party, having agreed to forego its political monopoly, is now facing calls to take a final step — and dissolve.

Firm supporters of Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika reforms are urging the Kremlin leader to rethink his proclaimed devotion to traditional Marx-Leninism and lead a new socialist party.

The calls to dissolve the party are so far coming mostly from radical intellectuals.

But there are signs that even dedicated members of the party, which has ruled the country for seven decades, are coming around to the view that its days are numbered.

"To achieve a total break with the past, the Soviet Communist Party has only one way out — self-dissolution," wrote Leningrad author Mikhail Chulak in the latest edition of Moscow News, a reformist weekly whose editorial offices were hadly damaged in a fire overnight.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1574 — Dutch rebels seize Zeeland.
- 1685 — La Salle, French explorer, establishes first settlement in Texas.
- 1856 — Reform edict is published in Turkish empire.
- 1884 — British forces under General Charles Gordon reach Khartoum in Sudan, but the Mahdi rejects his offer to negotiate.
- 1900 — Piet Cronje surrenders to British at Paardeberg in South African war.
- 1915 — German blockade of England goes into effect as submarine war is intensified in World War I.
- 1945 — Pacific war for two Jima begins in World War II.
- 1964 — Earthquakes rock Azores in eastern Atlantic, and ship battle high waves to evacuate people from San Jorge island.
- 1965 — African nation of Gambia becomes independent within British Commonwealth.
- 1970 — Young Filipinos storm US embassy compound in Manila protesting US military bases in Philippines and US economic policy.
- 1987 — Iraq announces two-week truce in its bombing campaign against Iranian cities in Gulf war.

Soviet pullout marks one year

Tribesmen yearn for peace

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, (AP): A year after the Soviet army withdrew from their homeland, Afghan tribesmen turned rebels are still living in squallid camps in Pakistan and wondering when they can return home in peace.

Many seem as frustrated by factionalism among rebel leaders as by the staying power of their foes, communist President Najib.

"Most people don't care about the (rebel) leaders or Najib, they just want peace in Afghanistan," said one Afghan rebel who asked not to be identified.

After nine years and at least 13,000 Soviet deaths, the Red Army pulled out of Afghanistan Feb. 15, 1989. It left behind a stalemate on the battlefield, and Western observers predicted US-backed rebels would soon overrun government troops and snatch victory from a demoralized Afghan army.

Relying on more than \$1 billion worth of Soviet military and humanitarian aid over the last 12 months, Najib has kept the cities under his control, and dealt rebels a political thrashing.

The rebel leadership, headquartered in Pakistan, is concentrated in the hands of seven Afghans who range from Islamic fundamentalists to Western-oriented royalists.

But like Najib, who is seen by most Afghan exiles as a Soviet puppet, the rebel leaders are increasingly viewed as ineffective figures dependent on US and Pakistani support.

Power

"Who has given these seven the power?" asked Naim Majrooh, head of a pro-rebel information centre. "Ask the friends of the Afghan resistance. It's not the people of Afghanistan."

The people, he said, have been dropped from the equation.

Majrooh said Afghans either have been terrorised into silence by some rebel leaders bent on carving out their political niche in the wake of the Soviet troop withdrawal, or they can't afford to speak up and risk losing their monthly stipend of food.

"They are dependent for everything in the camps and the economy inside the country has been so badly damaged," said Majrooh. "They have breakfast and they don't know where their dinner is coming from. They have been made into the silent slobs."

More than 3 million Afghans live in war-torn-like camps throughout Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province. Another 2 million live in Iran.

The United States uses Pakistan as the conduit to funnel about \$500 million worth of military aid to the rebels each year.

But while Washington has been signing the cheques, Pakistan has been deciding who gets what.

As a result, most of the aid has gone to a radical Muslim leader, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who shared the late president Gen. Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq's vision of Islam.

When Zia died in an August 1988 plane crash, the Afghan rebel leadership expected Hekmatyar to lose his favoured status.

Washington promised to keep a closer tab on the distribution of US aid after Hekmatyar's anti-US rhetoric heated up and stories of his party's brutal killing of rival rebels surfaced.

"But, nothing has changed," said Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, president of the self-styled rebel government that is boosted by the United States and Pakistan as the engine behind a political end to the bloody and protracted war.

Several Afghan, Western and US sources corroborated Mojaddidi's claims. Some US observers to Pakistan question whether Washington wants to, or is able to, take control of the Afghan government by those who supported the US policy, which remains under Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, comparable to the US Central Intelligence Agency.



LENIN TURNING OVER IN HIS TOMB

Tradition to the rescue

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, (Reuters): Battled by failures on the battlefield and splits in its own ranks, the Afghan rebel leadership is falling back on tradition in its search for an end to the Afghan war.

A year after the last Soviet troops left Afghanistan amid wild hopes of an imminent rebel victory, there's little talk in the Pakistani frontier city of Peshawar of military conquest.

Now the leaders want to convene a traditional grand council, or Jirga, of Afghan leaders and intellectuals to choose a new and more broad-based government.

The mujahedeen, however, the bottom line remains the removal of the interim government in Kabul which could involve former King Zahir Shah as the only prominent Afghan untainted by the conflict.

In talks in Moscow last week, US Secretary of State James Baker insisted that Najibullah should go before any peace talks as long as he steps down as part of the process.

Most peace plans envisage some

leaders of the resistance.

"I think this is the last chance for the leaders of the resistance," Afghan analyst Naim Majrooh said.

Six of the seven rebel groups in

Peshawar are working on a plan to

elect or select about 2,500 represen-

tatives, from all over Afghanistan

and among the five million refugees

living in Pakistan and Iran, to form

the Jirga.

and to see that 11 years of struggle and 1.5 million victims ... are not wasted," the President of the Afghan Interim Government (AIG), Sibghatullah Mojaddidi said.

"Our opinion is that as soon as possible, Najibullah must go and power must be transferred to put government in a position that will be decided by a Jirga," ...

In talks in Moscow last week, US

Secretary of State James Baker insisted that Najibullah should go before any peace talks as long as he steps down as part of the process.

Most peace plans envisage some

leaders of the resistance," Afghan analyst Naim Majrooh said.

Six of the seven rebel groups in

Peshawar are working on a plan to

elect or select about 2,500 represen-

tatives, from all over Afghanistan

and among the five million refugees

living in Pakistan and Iran, to form

the Jirga.

and to see that 11 years of struggle and 1.5 million victims ... are not wasted," the President of the Afghan Interim Government (AIG), Sibghatullah Mojaddidi said.

"Our opinion is that as soon as possible, Najibullah must go and power must be transferred to put government in a position that will be decided by a Jirga," ...

In talks in Moscow last week, US

Secretary of State James Baker insisted that Najibullah should go before any peace talks as long as he steps down as part of the process.

Most peace plans envisage some

leaders of the resistance," Afghan analyst Naim Majrooh said.

Six of the seven rebel groups in

Peshawar are working on a plan to

elect or select about 2,500 represen-

tatives, from all over Afghanistan

and among the five million refugees

living in Pakistan and Iran, to form

the Jirga.

and to see that 11 years of struggle and 1.5 million victims ... are not wasted," the President of the Afghan Interim Government (AIG), Sibghatullah Mojaddidi said.

"Our opinion is that as soon as possible, Najibullah must go and power must be transferred to put government in a position that will be decided by a Jirga," ...

In talks in Moscow last week, US

Secretary of State James Baker insisted that Najibullah should go before any peace talks as long as he steps down as part of the process.

Most peace plans envisage some

leaders of the resistance," Afghan analyst Naim Majrooh said.

Six of the seven rebel groups in

Peshawar are working on a plan to

elect or select about 2,500 represen-

tatives, from all over Afghanistan

and among the five million refugees

living in Pakistan and Iran, to form

the Jirga.

and to see that 11 years of struggle and 1.5 million victims ... are not wasted," the President of the Afghan Interim Government (AIG), Sibghatullah Mojaddidi said.

"Our opinion is that as soon as possible, Najibullah must go and power must be transferred to put government in a position that will be decided by a Jirga," ...

In talks in Moscow last week, US

Secretary of State James Baker insisted that Najibullah should go before any peace talks as long as he steps down as part of the process.

Most peace plans envisage some

leaders of the resistance," Afghan analyst Naim Majrooh said.

Six of the seven rebel groups in

Peshawar are working on a plan to

elect or select about 2,500 represen-

tatives, from all over Afghanistan

and among the five million refugees

living in Pakistan and Iran, to form

the Jirga.

and to see that 11 years of struggle and 1.5 million victims ... are not wasted," the President of the Afghan Interim Government (AIG), Sibghatullah Mojaddidi said.

"Our opinion is that as soon as possible, Najibullah must go and power must be transferred to put government in a position that will be decided by a Jirga," ...

In talks in Moscow last week, US

Secretary of State James Baker insisted that Najibullah should go before any peace talks as long as he steps down as part of the process.

Most peace plans envisage some

leaders of the resistance," Afghan analyst Naim Majrooh said.

Six of the seven rebel groups in

Peshawar are working on a plan to

International terrorism on the decline

WASHINGTON, Feb 17, (AP): International terrorist incidents declined 25 per cent last year, in part because of a drop in Palestinian terrorism, but attacks by Iran-sponsored Shiite groups are on the rise, a US official said yesterday.

Preliminary figures compiled by the State Department also showed a 27 per cent drop in the number of fatalities from terrorist acts — from 660 to 485.

While no exact figure for terrorist incidents is available for 1989, it is about 25 per cent lower than the 1988 total of 856, an official said on condition of not being identified. The 1988 figure was 3 per cent higher than in 1987.

Experts attribute last year's decline to better security measures at airports, more commitment by governments to bring suspected terrorists to trial

and a drop in the activities of Palestinian groups.

The largest faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Fatah, has refrained from attacks in keeping with a pledge made in December 1988 by its leader, Yasser Arafat, the US official said. He predicted Fatah would continue on this course.

Less certain, he said, is the future of two radical Palestinian groups dormant in 1989: The Fatah Revolutionary Council headed by Abu Nidal and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, headed by Ahmed Jibril.

Abu Nidal's group has been paralysed by internal dissension that led the Libyan-based leader to order dozens of followers killed over the past two years, PLO sources said. Western sources confirmed those

accounts but said the group still posed a threat. They said some Abu Nidal operatives joined the Syrian-based PFLP-GC.

FBI and intelligence officials believe the PFLP-GC carried out the December 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland, in which 200 people were killed.

Syria has temporarily restrained the PFLP-GC because of the international outrage following the Pan Am disaster, said Ariel Merari, an expert on international terrorism from Tel Aviv University in Israel.

Jibril is thought to have carried out the attack under contract to Iran, which has been accused of sponsoring dozens of terrorist acts around the

world. Iranian-sponsored terrorist activity has increased in the six months since the death of Iran's revolutionary leader, the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Several UN relief organisations pulled out of Somalia last October when the country's brutal civil war made it impossible to distribute goods in the arid northwest region.

Indications of stepped up Iranian activity stem partly from a shipment of explosives intercepted last November in Barcelona, Spain. The explosives were sent from Lebanon by the pro-Iranian Hezbollah network of Shiite extremists.



Savage battles in East Beirut

Lebanese army troops loyal to defiant General Michel Aoun deploy in a street of Pura al-Chubak area in battered East Beirut after they gained it from Lebanese Forces following 20 hours of savage bombardment.



(At right) three Lebanese army soldiers use truck wheels as a barricade during savage battles. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israeli settlement plan illegal, declares UN

US abstains but describes move an obstacle.

GENEVA, Feb 17, (Agencies): The United Nations called on Israel yesterday to refrain from settling immigrants in the occupied territories.

The UN Human Rights Commission, in a resolution passed by 42 votes to zero, also said Israel's entire settlement policy for the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights was illegal.

The United States abstained in the vote but described settlements as "an obstacle to peace."

Palestinians have expressed alarm that new settlements will make it more difficult to recover the territories in the long term. They also say new settlements compete with Palestinians for scarce resources like ground water.

The commission passed other resolutions, similar to ones approved in past annual sessions, "strongly condemning" the continued occupation as well as a long list of what it called human rights violations from torture to deportations.

The commission also denounced Israel's illegal and contravenes the relevant provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which monitors implementation of the Geneva conventions, also said on Tuesday that the settlements were illegal.

US ambassador Morris Abram said his government disagreed with the way certain parts

of the resolution were phrased, but he added:

"We believe that settlements are an obstacle to peace. We believe that putting more settlers in these areas, particularly at this time, works against the cause of peace."

The commission said it was "seriously concerned" at the recent suggestions that immigrants to Israel may be settled in the occupied territories. It called on the government "to refrain from settling immigrants in the occupied territories."

The agency said the denunciation came during a meeting yesterday at the Foreign Ministry between Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov and a PLO delegation comprising its executive committee members Mohamed Abbas and Suliman Al Najjar.

In Baghdad, Yasser Arafat

discussed with four Arab foreign ministers the influx of Soviet Jews into Israel, a PLO official said.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Egyptian consul's son arrested in drug case

HOUSTON, Feb 17, (AP): The son of the Egyptian consul was arrested along with seven others for allegedly trafficking in the synthetic drug MDMA, known as "ecstasy," authorities said yesterday.

Sherif Elgamrawy, 27, son of consul Bediia Elgamrawy, was arrested late Thursday after undercover officer bought about 1,000 tablets of the drug, said Sgt Bill Kesseler of the Harris county organized crime narcotics task force.

The drug is an amphetamine derivative, which users say induces a euphoric state. It was legal through the mid-1980s and some psychiatrists used it to enhance patients' memories and lead them to insights.

Elgamrawy was held without bond yesterday at the county jail, said Kesseler. He was on bond on three other drug charges at the time of his arrest, authorities said.

One of those arrested was a 16-year-old girl, who was released to her parents' custody, Kesseler said. The other seven, including Elgamrawy, were charged with delivery of a controlled substance.

Kesseler said the arrests were part of an investigation of ecstasy suppliers in the Houston area.

The younger Elgamrawy was driving a car with diplomatic license plates Kesseler said, adding he didn't know whether the son would have diplomatic immunity.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

PLO criticised

CAIRO, Feb 17, (AP): Relations between Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation continued to worsen today, as leading columnists in state-run newspapers attacked a top adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

Newspaper editors close to President Hosni Mubarak have severely criticised the PLO this month for failing to issue an unqualified condemnation of a Feb 4 terrorist raid that killed nine Israeli tourists in Egypt.

The latest salvo came in the Saturday editions of the daily Al Ahram and weekly Al-Kawn newspapers. They were aimed at Salah Khalaf, Arafat's main adviser, who recently called Egyptian newspaper editors "venomous snakes."

"These are irresponsible words from a Palestinian leader who is used to being impulsive, then retracting. But this time he has passed his limits because he knows stakes well, and their pits which are within his circles of interest," wrote Ibrahim Nafe, editor-in-chief of Al Ahram and a confidante of Mubarak.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Amman.

Jewish groups and the US government reached an agreement yesterday on resettling 8,000 Soviet refugees, most of them Jews, in the United States.

The Council of Jewish Federations and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society will cover the costs of processing and transporting the refugees. They will also pay for their medical examinations, placement and resettlement for two years after they enter the country. The estimated cost is \$30 million.

Arafat League Secretary General Chadi Klibi yesterday said the Arab nation was currently facing renewed Israeli aggression not less dangerous than that of 1948.

The foreign ministers of Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen were in Baghdad to discuss the agenda for a Feb 24-26 summit of

Arab Co-operation Council leaders in Am



I love to read

The American School of Kuwait (ASK) Salwa campus is celebrating 'I Love to Read' month during February. All the classes are decorating their doors with book-themed. The students are being encouraged to spend extra time reading each night. Good reading habits developed in childhood will benefit a person throughout his lifetime.

ASK also held a bookmark contest and each student had an opportunity to create an original bookmark. Special guests have visited the classroom to give talks about the value of reading.

At the end of the month the boys and girls will participate in a gigantic 'book character parade'. Children will dress up as an animal or person from a book for the parade. The parents are invited to attend the event. Prizes will be awarded to pupils who have reached the goal of reading for fun every day in the month of February.

Robbie 2002 at Kuwait International

What is a Robot doing in Kuwait?

DRAMATIC report has reached Kuwait. Rumour has it that Robbie 2002, a full metal, remote control, 1.2 metre tall robot is expected to arrive in Kuwait during the National Day celebrations. A sophisticated mechanical and unusual contraption, Robbie 2002 was born and raised in England. Like a chameleon which changes colour to adapt to any situation, Robbie 2002 has been in completely different guises in numerous exhibitions and television appearances. With over 200 TV appearances to his credit, Robbie 2002 is a star. He has acted as Rocky Wool (a bale of cotton), Henry X, 'Kenny the Carrier Bag', Wiz Bit and Max Trax. He is also 'Dusty Bin', the world famous robot of 3.2.1. that was one of the most successful TV quiz shows in England regularly having over 17 million viewers worldwide. Robbie has appeared in many forms but for Kuwait, his spokesman says, "... Robbie will be dressed to kill!"

He is currently taking tap dancing lessons at the London Royal Ballet School which will be just one of the many talents. His hotel bookings are not yet confirmed but Robbie has shown a marked preference for the Kuwait International Hotel.

Robbie 2002 undergoes treatment
Whenever Robbie 2002, the high-tech metal robot has travelled it was always by sea. He was dismantled and bundled into the cargo hold. This way his electrical 'nerves' were numb and he never got sea sick. But Robbie has a mind of his own. This time he insists on coming to style as he comes for an important occasion. He has decided to travel by air and as a 'passenger'. His friends from Kuwait Airways have generously offered to fly him over several

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait City
Al Hajri Pharmacy, Al Hilali Street
Al Baqami Pharmacy, Ahmed Al Jaber Street Hawalli and Al Nogra Al Haou Pharmacy, Beirut

Street
Al Salimiyah and Al Rumethiyah
Al Madaan Pharmacy, Bagh-dad Street
Al Fahad and Al Ahmadi Gulf Pharmacy, Polyclinic

Street
Old Khaitan
Al Shraan Pharmacy, Block 2
Al Zahra Al Zahra Pharmacy, New Souk

There is a variety



of floor coverings
where most polishers



fear to tread



Hoover does any polishing job on any floor covering

RUG & FLOOR CONDITIONER

- Shampoo carpet
- Scrubs floors
- Picks up water from floors
- Polishers and maintains all hard surfaces.

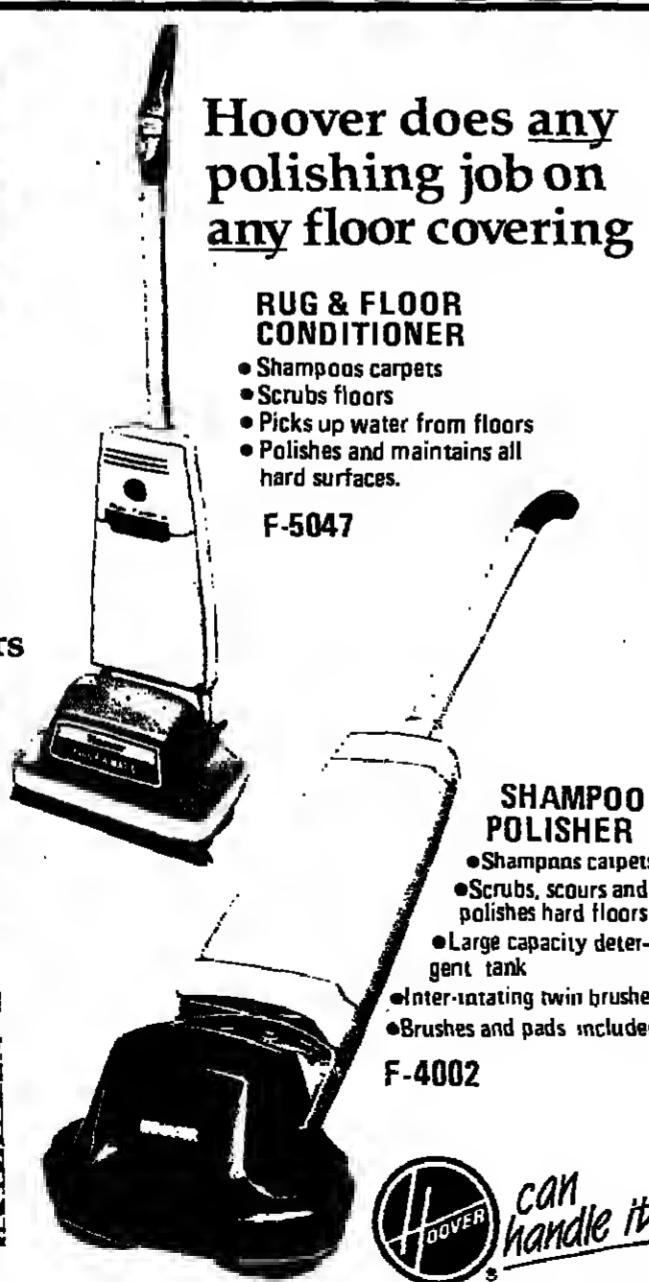
F-5047

SHAMPOO POLISHER

- Shampoo carpet
- Scrubs, scour and polishes hard floors
- Large capacity detergent tank
- Inter-rotating twin brushes
- Brushes and pads included

F-4002

can handle it!



Over 55 years of tradition in quality and service
Jashanmal & Partners Ltd.

KUWAIT Tel: 248700, 2420712
AL MUTHAWRA Tel: 2425081

After-Sales Service
HOover
Tel: 3422341, 3443046
REFRESH
REFRESH
CLEAN
DO
NOT
LITTER

ALSO AVAILABLE AT ALL AUTHORISED HOOVER DEALERS

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

MORNING

9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Khair news
9.50 Cartoon Serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.30 Shuaa Min Al Madhi: Arabic Serial (part 7)

1.4 That's Incredible: Foreign Variety Programme
12.25 News Summary

12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown
EVENING

4.00 Opening and Holy Quran
4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)
4.45 Saham Al Fadha: Cartoon Serial

5.15 Cartoons

5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements
6.00 Wa Qala Hakeem: Historical Serial (part 9)

7.00 Varieties

7.15 The Agricultural Magazine: local programme, prepared and presented by Yaqoub Al Yousfi

7.45 Diwaniyat Sbuara Al Nabat: local programme

8.30 Good Evening and local news
9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Ahlam Sagheera: local serial (part 9)

10.45 Al Iktiyar Al Hor: Arabic late night feature, starring Huda Sultan, Husain Al Sberbeeni, Mejda Zaki and May Abdul Ghani

12.00 News Summary

12.05 The World Today via Satellite

12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement and Holy

7.00 Quran
6.10 The New Three Stooges. A cartoon series for children

6.30 The Beachcombers. "Poster Boy". As if constable John doesn't have enough to worry about... He is stuck with corporal Dan Fellows looking over his shoulder... Dan seems to be having it all his own way with Gerri Dayton, the photographer...

7.00 The Celts "The Open Ended Curve." Interviews held and a display of antiques from the Celtic heritage showing the primitive life of the Celtic tribes...

8.00 News in English

8.30 Midnight Caller "Blues For Mr. Charlie". A special programme on the dangers of holding arms inadvertently...

7.15 The Agricultural Magazine: local programme, prepared and presented by Yaqoub Al Yousfi

9.30 Coach "Define Romaace" "Hyde feels jealous when his girl-friend "Christine" goes to the opera with another man..."

10.00 Q.E.D. "The Write Stuff" A look at writings analysis science as a new branch of psychology... Interviews held with experts in analysing writing from where they can tell about the personality of the writer...

10.30 Bestseller "The Shiralee" pt. 2 "Mac" returns with his daughter "Paster" to stay with his eldest daughter "Lily"..."Paster" falls sick and Mac leaves town searching for a new job...

12.00 News in Brief

12.15 Magazine D'Actualite



Condolences for Thoppil Ravi

tural & political organisations in Kuwait participated in the meeting held at Regal Hotel (Behind GPO).

Most of the representatives who participated found that, Ravi never judged things by political bias and by his demise socio-political arena of Kerala has a big gap which cannot be filled by normal politicians. They also expressed anxiety in such loss of sincere leaders from Congress party. "We have to exemplify him in our political career", they added.

Varghese Mathew presided over the function. Amerjean, Thankappan (KALA) Edava Nasir, P.M. Sudhakaran and K.T. Beerankoya expressed co-

olences representing various organisations in Kuwait. Joseph Thankachan welcomed the audience and Krishnan Kadambudi extended thanks.

The picture shows the last public function attended by Thoppil Ravi. This was a meeting organised by "Vecishanam Readers Forum" at Dubai on the Republic Day of India this year. Ravi is delivering the speech. The others are Mohan Oas (president — Dubai Unit), Bhavath Singh (UAE Central Committee president) and Subash Chandra Bose (Sbarajah Unit President).

After this visit, Ravi returned home and passed away on 8th February, '90 from a heart attack.



Farewell dinner

Shireen and Iqbal H. Zaidi hosted a farewell dinner at their residence to say good-bye to Said Akbar Afridi, First Secretary, Pakistan Embassy, on his transfer to Mozambique. Diplomats from Canada, Hungary, Japan, Lebanon, The Netherlands, Syria and Turkey attended the dinner.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Man on Fire
Al Salimiyah
Hall booked
Al Hamra
Agnepath
Drive-in
Arabic film
Al Firdous
Agnec Path
Fahsheel Open
Ninja Operation
Al Jabra
Haqqeqat
Granada
Rama-o-Rama

Shabibkhat
Cry Freedom
Jleel
Varavelip
Almadi Drive-in
Brass Targets

PRAYERS

Fajr 5.05 am
Zohr 12.02 pm
Asr 3.14
Magrib 5.39
Isha 6.57

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah
14 Feb. Architecture of Mamluk Jerusalem exhibition, opening 4.30 pm co-organized by the British Council Wed 14 February - Wed 21 February. This is a specially designed photographic exhibition which is accompanied by wall text and is on display for only a week. Dr Bourgoine who will give a lecture in Arabic and in English is author of the architectural catalogue which accompanies the exhibition.

Seminar
THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodical Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration maybe made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah. Tel: 2430826, 2452359.

Hobby Centre
FELTCRAFT as a medium for children to make pictures, flowers, toys etc. with felt. This new craft course will start February 27th and March 4th for 6 weeks for children from 8 years old. Tel: 5618847, 5317354.

SOCIAL
Flute recital
PRESENTED by a group of 4 young Austrian artists at the Kuwait International Hotel on 24th February at 8.00 pm. Winners of the first prize at the Youth Musicians' Festival in Austria, they have recorded for the radio and television in Italy, Luxembourg, Switzerland, USSR, Egypt and Austria. In the Terrace Room. Tel: 2530000 ext 8039/8040

Kuwait Welsh Society
ST. DAVID'S Day buffet dinner Thursday 1st March 1990 at Messilah Beach Hotel. For ticket reservations & more information ring 3713467, 3912384, 5625316.

Flag at half-mast

ON the occasion of Shaheed Dibas (Martyrs' Day), the Bangladeshi flag will be hoisted at half-mast at a solemn ceremony by the Ambassador at the Bangladesh Embassy premises, Khaldiya on Feb 21 at 9.00 am. All Bangladeshis are invited to attend the ceremony.

Shahheed Day

THE Bangladesh Association, Kuwait, will hold a cultural function on the occasion of "Shahheed Day" on Feb 24, at 6.30 pm at the Bangladesh embassy premises, Khaldiya. Mr. K. M. Shehabuddin, the ambassador, will be the chief guest.

All Bangladeshis are invited.

Oil and Gas Catalogue Show
THE Commercial Service of the Americo embassy announces an "Oil and Gas Catalogue Show" at the Kuwait Continental Hotel during Feb 19-20, 1990, between 8.30 am and 8.30 pm.

Catalogues of more than 200 US companies in the Oil and Gas industry will be displayed. Interested firms are invited to attend.

For further information please contact, Abdulla Mealli, Tel: 2424151 ext 267, Fax: 2407368.

Children's variety show

RANGDHANU, a children's variety show which includes a play, will be staged on March 1, Thursday at the Theatre Hall of Kuwait University Law Faculty, Shuwaikh campus, at 6.30 pm. For details contact 4840759, 4312730, 4312280, 4733106 or 3729425.

Craft Centre

MOTHERS are your hands too full with your tots on weekends? Here's a chance for you to relax and introduce them to creative art. For details contact 5635740, between 9 - 12 noon.

El N'Pieces

An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel: 5634663.

Indian Cuisine Centre

Indian art of fancied lac bangles and designer bangles work come live at the finest Indian cuisine centre of Kuwait at the Maharaja Palace Restaurant.

Come savour the delicacies whilst giving your lady a gift to cherish. For more information contact 2406159.

ACOI seven-a-side

ACOI overseas is pleased to announce their first one day football tournament which will be held on the March 2, 1990, at the Sour Grounds.

For further information contact, Casmiro D'Souza or Meetoo Leitao at the Sour Grounds.

Al Bangladeshi

Entertainers will be held at the SAS Hotel (The Teot) with music provided by Top Ranks & Perfect Strangers on 22nd Feb, 1990 from 20.30 hours onwards. Highlights of the evening: Parade by K-Momo, Crowning of Carnival Queen, Rumba Samba dance competition, Group prizes and many other surprises. For further details please contact: The Organisers, Chopsticks Chinese takeaway, Tel: 5617243.

Tivim Centre

TIVIM Centre is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-side Inter Village Football Tournament which will be held on the Sour grounds, Kuwait City, beginning March 27/28th 1990. For further information please contact organisers 2441860 Casmiro.

Ladies International League

LIL newcomers: A coffee morning will be held on Feb 26 at the Sheraton Hotel from 10 am to 12 noon. Newcomers to LIL and Kuwait will be most welcome. For further information please call Ann on 5316905.

Handicrafts exhibition

UNDER the auspices of the Minister of Interior, Sheikh Salim Al Sabah, an exhibition of handicrafts for young Kuwaiti boys and girls will be held on February 24 until February 28 at the Kuwait Reg

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Alshall stock price indices

Trade volume surges as market picks up

THE Alshall index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday, Feb 14, 1990 an average of 38.67 points with a decrease of 0.05 point — 0.21 per cent — from last week's average of Wednesday, Feb 7, 1990. The Alshall index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 67.32 points with an increase of 0.28 points — 0.42 per cent — for the same period, according to Al Shall weekly market review.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 14.28 million shares at a daily average of 2.86 million shares with an increase of 131 per cent over the previous week's daily average of 1.24 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 3.160 million shares at a daily average of 0.632 million shares with an increase of 2 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.621 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD4.37 million at a daily average of KD0.87 million, an increase of 123 per cent over last week's daily average of KD 0.39 million. The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.144 million at a daily average of KD0.029 million, an increase of 53 per cent over last week's daily average of KD 0.019 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 40 per cent of total trading against 47 per cent last week. The National Bank of Kuwait had the lead at 36 per cent, followed by The Gulf Bank at 18 per cent and Kuwait Finance House at 11 per cent.

The real estate sector came second at 31 per cent in which, United Realty Company had the lead at 9.5 per cent followed by Kuwait Real Estate Company at 0.5 per cent. The investment sector came third, at 20 per cent. Kuwait Investment Projects Company had the lead at 65 per cent followed by Coast Investment and Development Company at 24 per cent, and International Financial Advisers Company at 6 per cent. As for the Non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 33 per cent followed by Bahrain Middle East Bank at 28 per cent Umm Al Quasim Cement Company at 23 per cent.

The market was weak in general but gave signs of increase in activity compared to last week. This was reflected on five of the six indices in both Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti markets and came after a long period of weakness.

The present trend is usual and often happens after a long period of sluggish activity. We believe that the reason behind the relative increase in activity is the general belief that a certain political solution has been reached locally, however this reason cannot be confirmed yet because of the short period and the complexity of political matters.

Listed companies continue to declare dividend distributions for 1989. Four Kuwaiti companies declared dividends last week of which two declared cash dividends while the other two declared both cash and stock dividends. This led to a total of 20 companies which have declared dividends in the Kuwaiti share market which constitutes 45.5 per cent of total listed companies of which 60 per cent declared cash dividends only and 40 per cent declared both cash and stock dividends.

The percentage of companies that are distributing stock dividends is increasing and as we have stated before, we believe this is an undesirable policy.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

Wed. 14/02/90 Wed. 07/02/90 Change points

Banking Sector

The National Bk

121.52 121.52 —

The Gulf Bk	29.70	29.70	—
The Comm. Bk	23.71	23.27	0.44
Al Ahli Bk	30.28	32.80	-2.52
Bk of Kt & ME	31.44	30.50	0.94
Kuwait R. Est. Bk	28.71	28.71	—
Burgan Bk	25.81	26.01	-0.21
Kt Finance House	76.62	75.80	0.82
Sector Index	47.54	47.55	-0.11
Inv. Sector	9.18	9.55	-0.37
Kuwait Inv. Co.	8.59	8.59	—
Kt. Int. Inv. Co.	25.74	28.31	-2.57
IFA Comm. Facilities	143.00	151.25	-8.25
National Inv.	57.84	57.84	—
Kt. Inv. Proj.	92.13	89.89	2.25
Coast Inv. & Dev.	92.94	91.76	1.18
Sector Index	32.04	32.65	-0.61
Inv. Sector	35.88	35.88	—
Kt. Ins. Co.	23.08	23.08	—
Gulf Ins. Co.	50.84	50.84	—
Al Ahlia Ins.	50.69	50.69	—
Warba Ins. Co.	35.74	35.49	—
Sector Index	14.02	15.04	-1.02
Kt. Real Est.	5.41	5.04	0.37
Utd. Reality	39.42	39.42	—
Nat. Real Est.	63.49	63.49	—
Pearl of Kt.	15.88	15.96	-0.08
Sector Index	11.45	11.45	—
Kt. Cmty. Co.	84.55	84.55	—
Ref. Ind.	116.52	116.52	—
Gulf Cables	60.44	60.44	—
Kt. Pharm.	30.24	30.24	—
Sector Index	151.20	151.20	—
Kt. Cmtr. Co.	7.61	7.61	—
Kt. Cinema Co.	58.59	56.57	2.02
Pub. Whsng Co.	35.91	35.45	0.46
Kt. Comm. M.C.	338.10	328.57	9.52
M. Tele. Syst.	57.42	55.98	1.44
Sector Index	29.29	29.29	—
L. Trad. & Transp.	11.05	11.05	—
Utd. Fisheries	110.01	110.01	—
Kt. Ut Poultry	74.71	74.71	—
Kt. Food Co.	39.88	38.68	—
Sector Index	38.87	38.95	-0.08
Overall Index	67.32	67.04	0.28

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index	Wed.	Wed.	Change points
14/02/90	07/02/90		
First G. Bk.	236.84	236.84	—
Bah. Inv. Bk.	91.03	89.66	-1.38
Bah. M.E. Bk.	93.02	94.92	-1.90
Ac. Gen. Inv. (Shua)	43.94	43.18	-0.76
Umm Al Q. Cmt.	17.62	17.62	—
G. Med. Proj.	13.13	13.13	—
Total Index	67.32	67.04	0.28

—Base period 31/12/1983.

—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

14/02/90 07/02/90 —

Banking Sector

The National Bk

Markets correct false rally

Oil prices dip

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (UPI): Prices on world oil markets dropped yesterday in what was seen as a correction of a rally Thursday triggered by erroneous rumours that an earthquake had damaged the Alaska pipeline carrying more than a quarter of US oil output.

On the week, however, prices moved up on the uncertainty created by the bankruptcy of Drexel Burnham Lambert, a major oil market player, and an oil industry report that US gasoline stocks grew a surprising 7 million gallons (25 million l) last week. Colder weather in Europe also played a role.

"It turned out yesterday's (earthquake) did not cause any danger to the pipeline," said Peter Beutel of Elders Futures Inc. in New York.

The federal earthquake centre in Anchorage said Thursday a moderate earthquake with a magnitude of 4.5 on the Richter scale hit 20 miles (32 km) west of Valdez. A spokesman for the Alyeska pipeline said the pipeline had not been damaged or shut down.

McDermett did not anticipate any rally on the final day of trading the spot month contract as has been the case in the last several months.

He said in recent months the high margin between the prices

of refined products and crude has encouraged refiners to buy at the end of a delivery contract.

"That's not going to happen this month," the analyst said.

There will be increasing pressure to lower crude prices with the approach of March and falling demand as refineries perform their seasonal turnaround maintenance to maximize the refining of gasoline over heating oil.

"I see extensive turnarounds in March with losses (in crude demand) of about 1 million barrels a day spread across the United States," McDermett said.

"I don't see good news in heating oil. I don't see good news in gasoline and I don't see good news in crude oil," he said. "The market is telling me it's going to go lower."

March heating oil dropped 1.25 cents to 57.40 cents a gallon on the Merc, still 2.32 cents higher than the previous Friday. It fell 1.4 cents to 57.65 cents a gallon on the New York harbour cash market, 2.65 cents higher than a week ago.

for hope. For, if some reforms are seen to succeed, others will follow to bring better outcome across the board.

Despite its economic potential, and the dramatic political changes now taking place, the influence of events in Eastern Europe on the Western economy is likely to remain small in the near term, the UBS report says.

Though the situation differs from one country to another, Eastern Europe as a whole is simply too poor and disorganized for developments in the East to influence overall economic activity in the West. While its population, including the Soviet Union, exceeds that of Western Europe by nearly 20 per cent, combined national output — and income — is less than half as large.

Despite a large and relatively well educated workforce and a solid natural resource base, Eastern Europe's 425 million people produce a little less than do 122 million Japanese. "Natural resources are wasted, labour is unproductive, and management effort is misdirected," the UBS report points out.

Eastern Europe presents an attractive market for Western producers. Shortages of almost everything and the poor quality of goods available suggest tremendous opportunities to many Western entrepreneurs. But lack of purchasing power by Eastern Europe to pay for the broad range of goods and services demanded is a

problem.

Russia dominates the East with an economy more than twice the size of the rest of Eastern Europe combined. Even so, Russia's \$1,500 billion gross national product (GNP) is only about half that of Japan's.

Poland, the next largest Eastern country, is not quite the economic size of the Netherlands, while Hungary compares with Greece or Portugal.

For most Western firms, integration within the \$3,800 billion European Economic Community still presents possible gains or losses — that look much more important than possible profits even in the Soviet Union.

With relations between Eastern countries already poor and moving apart, closer ties to one or two of the smaller countries is not likely to assure access to the combined market in any event, the report contends.

Most of Eastern Europe's output is devoted to meeting the minimum needs of its people. The highest per capita income, in East Germany, is only about in line with that in Spain, Ireland or southern Italy.

Income in Poland, Yugoslavia or Romania

were only about on par with Turkey in 1987 (the year of the bank's benchmark estimates), and have likely fallen behind since.

Russia's per capita income in 1987 was just about the average for other Eastern European

countries. However, this included \$700 per capita spent on defence — adding little to the material well-being of the people.

The lag behind Western Europe will not easily be overcome, the UBS says points out. While Eastern Europe may not be poor in comparison with Africa or South Asia, it lags well behind the more advanced developing countries in Asia and even the poor countries and regions of Western Europe.

Besides, just getting the rules right in Eastern Europe will not be enough to assure success. To avoid the low-growth traps of southern Italy or British Honduras, it will have to develop the "entrepreneurial dynamics" found in high-growth areas of Western Europe.

Weak East-West economic ties also limit Western gains from improved relations. Trade between Eastern and Western Europe in 1988 was to about \$90 billion, only 4 per cent of all Western Europe's trade.

Thus, trade relations within the European Economic Community (EEC) and between community and the EFTA (European Free Trade Association) members will continue to dominate the Western European economic picture for some time.

Even so, Eastern exports of the few products available may prove disruptive to some markets in the West — raw materials, basic industrial products and low priced consumer goods.

The declaration and the document present a com-

mon platform of the LDCs for the Paris conference and its preparatory process.

The LDCs meeting also adopted the following decisions: (a) A mission consisting of four ministers from LDCs will visit donor capitals after April to sensitize the donor community; (b) A centre for research on LDCs will be set up for monitoring the needs and problems of LDCs; (c) Consultations and exchange of views at ministerial level on issues of concern to LDCs and monitoring and follow-up of the plan of action for the LDCs will be held during regular UNGA sessions at New York.

Earlier this month, a meeting of the non-aligned Group of 77 was held in Dhaka. Addressing this meeting, Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad urged industrialized countries to reduce crushing Third World debt and draw the developing world into the economic mainstream and out of a "decade of despair."

Ershad warned that half a billion people in the least developed countries, including Bangladesh, remain "on the margin of existence" and need international support.

"The restoration of growth in the LDCs will require substantial increase in development assistance," he said.

For the underdeveloped countries, Ershad said, the 1980s were a decade of socio-economic stagnation.

"What was to be a decade of development became a decade of despair," he said. Average per capita income declined for most of the decade, and unemployment and illiteracy rose, he said.

Ershad said overseas development assistance (ODA) must move towards an agreed target of 0.15 per cent of the donor's gross national product, or alternatively doubling aid for the least developed countries.

"Donors should consider doubling the present level of ODA in the next five years," Ershad said. In the long term they should aim at revising the target to 0.20 per cent of their GNP to least developed nations, he added.

IDC fits new products to new markets

Two-fold strategy

IN July 1988 Loctite, the world famous international speciality adhesives company, responded to the growing requirements of the Middle East and African markets by deciding to spin off its international operations in these markets to a new company formed to meet specifically the needs of this market.

Its International Distribution Centre (IDC) was relaunched with the same management headed by managing director, Clive Godfrey, as

UN owed \$1.5 billion in overdue payments

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 17, (AP): The United Nations, facing mounting fiscal problems as it enhances its peacemaking role in the world, is owed \$1.59 billion in payments from 81 members, a UN report says.

The report released Friday says that of the total amount due to the 159-member body, roughly \$1.09 billion is for the UN's regular budget and about \$500 million is for peacekeeping missions.

The regular budget is used to pay for operations of UN headquarters in New York, Vienna and Geneva, and for operations in smaller offices in more than 70 countries.

A two-year regular budget of \$1.98 billion has been approved for 1990-91, with about \$935 million of that for this year's operations.

Member contributions for 1990 became overdue on Feb 1.

UN spokesman Matthew Nerzic said the world body faces as ominous financial situation.

"The secretary-general has repeatedly stated that the situation remains ominous. And despite these statements I can't say that the situation has improved," Nerzic said.

"In light of all that the organization is being asked to do at the moment, I think it is high time that the UN be able to leave its financial worries behind," he said.

In recent years the UN has heightened its involvement in mediating regional conflicts, clearing the way for an end to the Iran-Iraq war and overseeing the transition to independence in Namibia.

The five permanent members of the Security Council also have recommended a major UN role in efforts for peace in Cambodia.

The financial report showed that as of Feb 1, the United States owed \$772 million — \$173.2 million of that for peacekeeping operations and \$398.8 million for the regular budget.

Of the money the United States owes the regular budget, \$233.7 million is for the 1990 budget and \$365.1 million is owed for past-due contributions from previous years.

Malaysia to host summit

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Feb 17, (AP): In June Malaysia will host the first summit meeting of the new "Group of 15," formed to promote co-operation among developing nations, Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said today.

The group was assembled in Belgrade in September as a forum for regular consultation on issues facing developing countries, and to promote co-operation with developed nations, Abu Hassan said.

Its official name is the summit level group for South-South consultation and co-operation.

Abu Hassan said the government's decision to offer Kuala Lumpur as the summit site was a continuation of Malaysia's efforts to sustain and nurture effective South-South ties.

Group of 15 members are Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

EXCHANGE RATES	
Indian rupee	17.22
Sri Lankan rupee	7.340
Pakistani rupee	13.00
Swiss franc	1.320
US dollar	29.075
Pound sterling	49.525
UAE dirham	0.7910
Deutsche mark	1.7395
Japanese yen	0.02323

Dollar dips as traders dismiss trade number, eye Japan vote

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (UPI): The dollar mostly slid in New York trading yesterday despite a significantly reduced US trade deficit, as players took profits and fled to safe European units until after Japan's weekend elections.

The US trade deficit's fall to \$7.2 billion in December from \$10.5 billion in November — much greater than expected — should have helped the dollar. But players saw an import falloff as pointing to economic slowing.

The trade data was flanked by Federal Reserve Board numbers showing US industrial production off 1.2 per cent from December to January, and industrial capacity utilisation down to 81.9 per cent from 83.1 per cent.

Such evidence of economic feebleness increased the chance the Fed might lower interest rates and further undermine the

market's confidence in the dollar.

She predicted a "sign-of-relief rally in the yen" after Sunday's elections in Japan to renew the lower house of the Diet, or parliament. The governing Liberal Democratic Party is expected to retain its majority or at least enough seats to lead a strong coalition government.

But the yen doesn't rally on the election results, Finstrom said, the Bank of Japan might be obliged to raise its discount rate to reinforce the currency and keep rates competitive with those in West Germany. This would probably strengthen the yen against the dollar.

In New York the British pound climbed to \$1.6957 from \$1.6860.

Other dollar rates: 1.4910 Swiss francs, off from 1.5040; 5.6980 French francs, down from 5.7550; and 1.244 Italian lire, down from 1.2560.

In Europe the dollar closed mostly

marks, up from 1.6790 Thursday, and also rose in Zurich to 1.4990 Swiss francs from 1.4945.

In Paris, Brussels and Milan it rose to 5.7535 French francs against 5.7045, 35.44 Belgian francs against 35.13 and 1.256 Italian lire from 1.246.

In London trading the pound inched up to \$1.6960 from \$1.6935.

Republic National Bank in New York closed cash gold at \$417.75 an ounce, up from \$412.75. The New York Commodity Exchange closed gold at \$417.10 an ounce, up from \$412.40. Zurich gold rose to \$417.50 and ounce from \$417.75, while London gold rose to \$417.75 an ounce from \$415.75.

Republic closed cash silver at \$5.34 an ounce, up from \$5.33. Comex spot silver advanced to \$5.328 an ounce from \$5.317. Zurich silver closed higher at \$5.40 an

Wall Street watch

Surprise jump in interest rates

What recession? stock prices

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (AP): If the economy is beaded for a period of pain and retrenchment, some stubborn optimists in the stock market evidently haven't gotten the word.

Over the first seven weeks of 1990, the financial news has been almost unrelentlessly negative — recession forecasts, a sudden rise

in interest rates, and the dramatic failure of a prominent Wall Street firm.

The stock market joined in the gloomy chorus last month with a sell-off that chilled followers of the "January barometer," which is supposed to signal the likely course of stock prices over the rest of the year.

But with all those excuses to lose its nerve, the market has lately rebounded instead, and now stands only about 6 per cent below the record high it reached as the New Year began.

The latest demonstration of the market's resiliency came this past week, when barely a ripple of selling followed news of the

collapse of Drexel Burnham Lambert, the firm that reigned as "junk-bond" king through most of the 1980s.

That was hardly the only instance. Analysts also note that the market has been faced with a barrage of increasingly downbeat appraisals of the business outlook.

For example, Maury Harris, economist at PaineWebber Inc., this month said he believed the odds of a recession had increased to about two in five, or 40 per cent, from one in three previously.

At about the same time, the economists S. Jay Levy and David Levy in Chappaqua, New

York, increased their recession-probability rating from 50 per cent to 60 per cent.

Among other factors, both cited the surprise jump in interest rates, which has added to an already worrisome list of credit problems facing business planners and consumers.

Said the Levys: "The economy

has financial vulnerabilities that are now just beginning to impact non-financial economic activity.

"Overindebtedness has reduced, or ended, business at number of retail firms. Construction companies are building fewer houses because they can't obtain financing.

'Risk project'

Eurotunnel may be jeopardised



Andre Benard, the chairman of Eurotunnel, says the link between Britain and France may never be built. (Reuters wirephoto)

January between Eurotunnel and creditors that would have over project costs were resolved with TML.

The Eurotunnel spokeswoman said the company currently lacks the funds to pay the Anglo-French contracting consortium and will appeal the decision.

Eurotunnel's bankers stipulated that they would not finance a portion of the credit line frozen in October unless differences

were resolved with TML.

The Eurotunnel spokeswoman said TML's refusal to sign the agreement means the company doesn't have the cash to make good on the court order.

TML had previously brought Eurotunnel before the court over the payment issue, but the tribunal had urged the parties to seek a negotiated settlement.

Transmanche Link reportedly

IMF loan to Tanzania

WASHINGTON, Feb 17, (UPI): The International Monetary Fund yesterday announced a \$28.3 million loan to support Tanzania's economic reform programme.

The loan will help the third annual part of a three-year Tanzanian economic programme under the IMF's structural adjustment facility. Since its approval in October 1987, the East African country has drawn a total of \$70.8 million in support of the first and second annual parts of the programme.

The third part of the SAF programme aims to maintain an annual rate of economic growth of 4 per cent to 5 per cent, reduce the inflation rate from 24 per cent to less than 10 per cent, and improve Tanzania's external position.

Following a period of economic decline in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Tanzania's government introduced its economic recovery programme in mid-1986 to accelerate activity, reduce inflation and improve the efficiency of agriculture, industry and transportation.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with appropriate price signals through changes in the exchange rate and producer prices, combined with fewer price controls and reduced restrictions on productive activities.

The fund said that in a major shift in policy orientation, the government sought to improve resource allocation and to provide the economy with

Beware!... this teenage girl is deadly

MOTHER Karen Moore is always worried when her two young children are out by themselves. For if anybody molests them, their attacker could end up by being seriously injured.

For Karen's whole family — 32-year-old Tony, Sandra, aged 13, and Steven, eight — are all experts at the 2,000-year-old martial art of Thai boxing. They are all as deadly with their feet as with their fists.

In fact, father Tooy is the world champion and has been offered a part in a film to be made by the tycoons who rocketed the late Kung-Fu ace Bruce Lee to fame.

But every member of Tony's family packs a staggering punch. And this came in useful more than once for teenager Sandra, already a Thai boxing teacher and women's champion for North-West England.

She told me: "Once I was walking home with a few friends when we were attacked by three big lads, all much older than us. My friends ran off. But I threw one lad over a hedge, kicked one in the stomach — and the other one ran away."

"Another time, I was in the park on my own when I saw an old man being picked on by some lads. They were pushing him about and kicking his dog. I went over and told them to leave him alone. They turned round and one of them punched me. He was moving to punch me again but I kicked him in the stomach. They just stood there and looked pretty amazed, and the old man was able to walk away."

"And slightly-built fair-haired Steven could see a playground fight off at the speed of one of his highly-trained kicks. When I saw him recently took his fighting insanity on a trip to Thailand, boxing experts there wanted the boy to stay on so they could turn him into a champion."

But Karen thought Steven should stay a little longer at his home in Manchester before climbing into the world arena. Meanwhile, he trains at the local Thai boxing club, of which 32-year-old Karen is secretary. And she



Tony lying on broken glass

doesn't just push a pen... mother, too, packs a world-class punch.

Karen said: "More and more women are turning to Thai boxing as a form of self defence. It's all about evading attack, and then, if necessary, countering. I certainly worry less about my children being out on the streets because I know they can defend themselves."

"It is also good discipline for children. As Thai boxing is a dangerous sport, you have to listen to the teacher carefully. There can't be any mess around. It teaches kids very simply what is right and what is wrong."

And Tony, lithe and muscular, added: "My sport often sorts out the toughies who get drunk on a Saturday night and think they can fight. When they come to the sports centre and club, you see that they really can't punch properly. And most of them are too scared to go into that ring for a one-to-one fight, where they have to take me on."

But Tony hasn't found it easy to punch and kick his way to stardom. Karen said: "He is incredibly dedicated, always training and working hard at the sport. I'm proud of him — and the children, too. Although Thai boxing is a dangerous sport, I never feel worried about what they're doing."

But Tony is never satisfied at the standard his battling family achieve. At the sport, known as the King of the Martial Arts. That is why he goes to Thailand with them once a year to learn from the masters. And some of their tricks are amazing.

He told me: "They use the power of mind over matter to walk through fire, and to stride over and lie on broken glass. It's incredible to watch."

Then Tooy showed me one of the skills he had learnt from a Thai boxing master. He broke up some bottles and spread the jagged pieces on the floor. Tony then lay on the glass.

He explained calmly: "The last time I did this, a student rested a concrete breeze block on my stomach, and then broke it with a sledge-hammer. That shows the strength of the stomach muscles."

After a few minutes, Tony sat up. His back was barely marked by the glass. He said: "If I didn't concentrate, my back would be cut to pieces."

The best thing about Thai boxing is that you never stop learning. There is always some new technique or idea to find out. And not a day goes by for me without training or teaching.

"Although Thai boxing is a dangerous sport, I've never seen anyone seriously injured. You are on the attack all the time. But

in football, for example, you can be taken unawares and seriously hurt."

"It is amazing to see Thai people change as they go into the ring to box. When they go in, they become aggressive and have that killer instinct. But as soon as the fight is over, they're smiling and friendly."

"As for me, I'm aggressive in the ring — but placid outside it."

Tooy went on: "I'm constantly amazed by the power someone can generate from the body — and which is channelled by Thai boxing. At its best, it's a form of meditation. It's superb to watch people testing each other's skill in this way."

Tooy began to take the sport really seriously when he gave up his job as building labourer 5 1/2 years ago to open a Fighters and Fitness Centre, just a few streets away from his terrace home. He was able, with the help of grants, to convert a ramshackle, disused building into a training centre.

Here Tooy teaches the fine points of the martial art. For example, before a fight begins, a Thai boxer has to perform a ceremonial dance.

Fighters will wear a mungkoo, a sacred band, which has monks' prayer inside.

The traditions stem from the days when Thai boxers would fight to the death. This is now against the law, but Tooy believes it still goes on in remote areas.

He explained: "But the ritual is very important, as it helps to prepare you mentally for the fight."

When he takes his family to Thailand, Sharon is not allowed to train in some centres because she is a girl. But little Steven is always welcome because of his male talent.

But if he ever goes there for star grooming, he must expect to lead a tough life. Training begins at dawn, and the young fighters are kept hard at work until far into the night. They must have 100 per cent commitment, and mustn't even have a girlfriend.

Steven said: "I sometimes think I'd rather be a footballer."



Little Sandra practicing her trade

Country Music

In a musical no-man's land

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (UPI): Curtis Wright finds himself in a musical no-man's land.

The Pennsylvania native has had a top 30 single and some momentum. But Airborne Records is apparently so short of money it can't release his next single or his already prepared album.

Naturally, the country singer-songwriter is a frustrated man.

"I think they (Airborne officials in Nashville) are telling me as much as they know. I realize it is my business but I realize that sometimes you have to keep things to yourself until you get them figured out," Wright said.

"I am concerned that the album hasn't been put out. All I can do is hope that they get whatever problems they have worked out. Orelse I'm going to have to go somewhere else. I've got to."

Wright, who co-wrote *A Woman in Love*, is a big hit for Ronnie Milsap, said he hopes the success of his single, "She's got a man on her mind," will attract a major label to him.

"I'm certainly interested in talking with a major label to come up with some kind of plan. If somebody will take a chance, I think I'll prove I'm well worth it. We've got the songs and it's just a matter if Airborne is going to be able to move them or not."

"I've got a little momentum and I'd hate to lose it. I think I would be an attractive package. I don't understand why it hasn't happened. I can't let it kill me."

Wright said when he signed with Airborne he "assumed" they had the money to put out the product.

"I guess it bothered me that they signed somebody and created a product knowing that you couldn't go any further with it. It's beyond me. I didn't know that at the time."

"If Airborne could get everything straightened out and gets back to the swing, I would not mind staying here a bit. I have control. I like the people I'm

working with. I feel for them. They deserve to have a shot. If someone came in here and bought the company, I wouldn't be interested in staying."

"I am a man without a company, dead in the water. I've got some songs about real life out there that people will say, 'yeah, I feel like that.'

Wright began turning to music at the age of nine when his dad gave him a Sears Silvertone guitar which he still owns. His father never encouraged or discouraged him from going into music.

He entered an entertainment contest when he was 15 or 16 and came in second to a nine-year-old girl who sang "Almost Persuaded."

"It humbled me a little bit," laughed Wright. "I thought I had a chance at walking away with it. I guess it showed me that even though you might be the most talented, there might be something more involved than talent."

Wright said he was influenced by Buck Owens, Glen Campbell, the Eagles and other West Coast groups more than he was by Elvis Presley or the Beatles.

After graduating from high school, he got a job at a fiberglass plant in his hometown where his father worked and stayed there for three years.

Finally he told his dad he couldn't do it any more.

"I told him I didn't want to get locked into that syndrome where you find a girl, get married, buy a house, a boat and a car and that's the rest of your life. I told him that I had found a guy who would pay me \$150 to play three nights a week. I said I was going to take it."

"He said, 'son, I don't blame you. You're young enough where you can experiment. There is nothing for a young man in our town.'

Wright hit the road and got jobs with several bands including the super Grit Cowboy Band.

However, by 1987 Wright decided if he was ever going to make it in country music, he had to try it out in Nashville.

Housing the rich

Real estate costs soar as high as the stars

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Thanks in part to the likes of Frank Sinatra and Zsa Zsa Gabor, who seem to sell their houses when the closest get full, real estate here soars as high as the stars.

The average habitable house north of Santa Monica boulevard in Beverly Hills, for example, is about \$4 million.

Tear-down houses go for \$1.5 million — the older, smaller houses that are bulldozed for far grander things on lots that are often only 70 feet by 180 feet (21 by 55m.).

Of 200 houses built in Beverly Hills in the past two years, all but five replaced a tear-down.

If the low end of available houses is \$7 million in this enclave of the rich and infamous, the high end is out of sight. Some homes in Bel Air and Holmby Hills go for as much as \$25 million. Theo there is producer Aaron Spelling's \$4,000 square-foot (48,600 sq.m.) mansion, still under construction, which has a price tag estimated at about \$30 million.

The man doing the estimating is realtor Mike Silverman, who is as much a celebrity around town as most actors.

Silverman has been buying and selling homes to the big and small-screen elite for more than 30 years.

Several years ago he sold Frank Sinatra a house atop a peak in the Santa Monica mountains overlooking Beverly Hills. Sinatra grew tired of it, so Silverman sold it — sight-unseen — to a multimillionaire and his new bride.

After that marriage broke up, Silverman sold it back to Sinatra who kept it several years before selling it again.



Frank Sinatra



Cher

When Frank married Mia Farrow, he asked me to find him a house," Silverman recalls. "I drove him around Bel Air and told him to pick one out. He pointed to a home he liked, but it wasn't for sale.

"I took him back to his office and returned to the house and had tea with the woman who owned it. A few days later Frank bought the house."

According to Silverman, some 15 per cent of current real estate sales in these prestigious neighbourhoods is to foreign buyers, many of them from the Middle East and an increasing number from Japan.

Rickshaws dumped at sea

Jakarta drivers lose jobs — fish find home

JAKARTA, (Reuter): Jakarta's three-wheeled cycle rickshaws, or becaks, are being dumped into the sea, providing a home for fish but leaving tens of thousands of drivers screaming for jobs.

The government says becaks are inhuman and pledged to wipe them out by April, but its heavy-handed removal of drivers' livelihood has come under fire from all sides and has even led to violence.

Straining to pedal a rusty rickshaw loaded down with a middle-aged housewife, her three children and mountains of shopping in searing tropical heat is a tough way to earn a living.

"It's inhuman... a sort of exploitation of man by man," said Jakarta Governor Wiyogo Atmodarminto.

But drivers, who earn 5,000 rupiah (2.80

dollars) a day, would rather pedal than do nothing. They say they are being sacrificed to the development of the Indonesian capital.

The Jakarta government defends its policy, saying the administration is offering programmes for becak drivers registered as residents of Jakarta to retrain them as barbers, vendors or motor-vehicle drivers.

The government is asking non-residents to return to their hometowns or join a resettlement programme outside Java.

"What can I do if not driving a becak? Changing jobs requires capital. Where can I get the money from?" said Bedjo, a driver whose rickshaw was seized by a becak task force.

He said hopes of sending his two children

to school this year were drowned with his becak, which the government sent to a watery grave.

Becaks, pronounced becak, were introduced in the 1940s when the occupying Japanese army ran out of horses.

Now, manoeuvred through the narrow lanes of Jakarta's crowded residential areas, they are considered incompatible with a modern city.

Fame

The government says motorised three-wheelers and minibuses will replace becaks. But residents say their fumes will make Jakarta's polluted air even grimmer and their higher price will force many people to walk.

Abolishing becaks was first proposed in 1972, slicing the 125,000 rickshaws to

about 10,000 before the campaign lost steam. In the 1980s, numbers swelled to nearly 100,000.

The current crackdown began in earnest December. Day and night, a city task force nets becaks in Jakarta's sidestreets, wresting them from their owners and sending them to be dumped.

Fights between task-force officers and drivers are rife. Stone-throwing and attacks by both sides have left at least two people dead.

But becak dumping has a bright side. When officials found drivers raiding dumps and rebuilding the rickshaws, they took to throwing them into Jakarta Bay.

Fishermen found certain fish and musels have rapidly multiplied under artificial reefs of mossy becak corpses.

SNIPPERS

Passerby killer nabbed

A BAKERY owner who mauled a passerby last month was arrested by police at his home in Navotas yesterday morning, hours after the victim died.

Ernesto Ramirez, 31, of Lot 2, Carville Homes Subdivision, Tanza, gave up peacefully to Lt. Col. Edgardo Avendano.

Sgt. Rogelio Castillo said Ramirez went into hiding after beating up Noel Ulip, 16, of 27 Makinins St., Tanza, on Dec. 23.

Ulip died of internal hemorrhage at the Ospital ng Maynila.

The victim's father, Alfredo, and a witness said Ulip was walking home along Makinins St. when Ramirez rushed him and beat him up for no clear reason.

Naked & dead

A MAN was found naked and dead in a hotel room in Pasay City.

The hotel registry book showed that the man registered as Carlos Ferrer but Cpl. Salvador Aguas, Cpl. Jaime de la Cruz and Pfc. Pio Nepomuceno theorized that the man had used a fictitious name.

Cashier Maria Luzviminda Timkang, 27, of Dapitan Lodge at 47 Dapitan St., Pasay City, said the man checked in with a girl who looked "young and dirty."

Roommates Florencio Timkang and Casiano Florida knocked at the door of the room but no one answered.

They opened it with a duplicate key and found the man dead. The girl was gone.

The body was brought to the NBI morgue for autopsy.

Businesswoman slashed to death

THREE men slashed to death a businesswoman in Quezon City who turned down their request for a loan.

Honorina Ballerda, 55, of 30 Massaya St., Barangay Gulod, Novaliches was found dead in her room. She died from a slash wound in the neck.

Homicide investigator Pfc. Mariano Rivera Jr. said that the incident happened at the victim's house.

Ballerda's housemaid, Adela Argotes, 55, told police that one of the men entered the house and pretended to pawn a ring. Later the two other men forced open the door and the three suspects grabbed Ballerda.

The three men pushed Ballerda to her room where she was hogtied and slashed in the neck. Argotes told investigators.

The suspects before leaving ransacked the victim's house and fled with still an undetermined amount of money and jewelry.

Witnesses told police that on Friday the three men tried to secure a loan from Ballerda but they were turned down.

36 barangays freed from rebel control

THE military has established government presence in at least 36 barangays formerly controlled by communist rebels in Cotabato province in 1989.

Brig. Gen. Orlando V. Soriano, 603rd Army Brigade commander, said the defunct barangays are fronts 53 and 72 of the rebels' operational and expansion areas.

Soriano said defunct means that the barangays are rid of CPP/NPA political and military structures.

"The insurgents have suffered a major setback in front 53 where they used to control 40 barangays two years ago. By the end of 1989, rebel control was reduced to 25 and by November, 1989, the front was completely defunct," he said.

The front, which includes the towns of Magpet, President Roxas, Matsalam, Antipas and Kidapawan, is now rid of CPP/NPA shadow government, militia, forced taxation and rebel atrocities, Soriano said.

He added that in front 72, comprising the towns of Makilala and Tulunan, the number of CPP/NPA controlled areas had been reduced from 31 to 20 in 1989.

He said that people sympathetic to the CPP/NPA cause have begun to change their minds while those forced by NPA guns have vowed to fight back.

Student writers pit talents

ABOUT 200 editors and writers of public and private secondary school publications will pit talents during the regional secondary schools press conference (RSSPC) at the North Cotabato School of Arts and Trades in Barangay Sudipan, Kidapawan, Cotabato from January 9 to 12.

Dianan P. Kadon, director 3 of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, said the theme of the conference is "The Role of The School Paper in Promoting Peace Education."

The student writers and their advisers will come from the nine school districts of Central Mindanao namely Maguindanao, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur I, Lanao del Sur II, Iligan City, Marawi City and Cotabato City.

Kadon said they represent at least 50 student publications.

Local writers and national correspondents have been invited to share their expertise in the subjects of news and feature writing, editorial writing, layouting, copyreading and headline making, sports writing and other journalistic fields.

Grenade blast kills 1, wounds 12 others

A WOMAN was killed on the spot and 12 other people, including a German, were seriously wounded after an unidentified man lobbed a grenade into a mini bus Saturday in Cagayan de Oro City.

In a report received by Constabulary Chief Major-General Ramon E. Montano, the fatality was identified as Mitsuaki Waga, 25, who died on the spot.

Wounded were Ludwig Gerhard, 57, a German tourist, Annie Baroy, Janice Pacana, Arani Desano, Jonathan Waga, Marilou Udang, Lester Victor Udang, 4, Victor Udang Sr, Conception Sandig, Eleme Baroy, Linda Casino and Vincent Sandig.

Investigation disclosed that the passengers were in a mini-bus driven by Jonathan Waga when a man at the corner of Borja and Captain Vicente Streets threw a grenade at the vehicle.

Robbers kill Korean in Albay

A SOUTH Korean national working with the World Health Organisation (WHO) was killed and another was seriously wounded when they were shot by robbers in Albay.

South Korean embassy and Philippine military officials said Sung Mi Kim was killed and Man Suck Park was injured when one of three gunmen shot them inside a jeep they had hired.

The Koreans were going to a resort house near Mayon volcano when the gunmen hitched a ride. The men pulled out their guns inside the jeep after a short distance and unhooked a hold-up.

The driver of the vehicle brought the Koreans to the Albay Provincial Hospital.

Pig farm robbed of P140,000

SIX armed men took more than P140,000 in cash and pieces of jewellery from a piggy farm in Barangay Tungkong-Maogga, San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan.

Farm manager Luis Munoz, 27, was beaten up by one of the suspects when he refused to open the cash box.

Munoz and nine farm helpers were hogtied by the robbers, who were armed with guns and bladed weapons.

A bank book owned by employee Susan Lagrimas was also taken by the group who fled in the farm's service jeep.

Troops from 145th PC company, who arrived at the farm minutes after the robbery found the service jeep abandoned at the junction of Tungkong Mangga Road and Novaliches, Quezon City.

Witnesses said three men carrying a big bag boarded a bus bound for Metro Manila, while three others boarded jeepney bound for Bigat, Norzagaray, Bulacan.

'Cracker' kills teener

BACOLOD CITY — A teenager died at the Bacolod Sanitarium and Hospital from firecracker burns, police reported.

Police said Joe Alvin Oga, 18, of Rosario Hinigan, succumbed to third degree burns all over his body.

Early reports said Oga was making firecrackers at his house when the incident occurred.

Brother kills brother

A SIDEWALK vendor was stabbed dead by his younger brother following a heated altercation in a depressed Navotas community.

Abelardo Fernandez, 30, of Tabing-ilog, Block 33, Phase 2, Area 2, Dagat-Dagatan, Navotas, died from stab wounds in the left arm and chest.

The suspect, Dondon Fernandez, 28, escaped, police said.

The victim's daughter, Angelita, 13, told Navotas police chief Col. Alberto Nepomuceno that her uncle had earlier slapped her and burned her school uniform.

Love conquers cold, culture and jet lag

WHEN one sees a foreigner walking down the street with a Filipina, what's the first thing that comes to mind?

"Di Ermata," says artist Santiago Rose.

"Well I can tell if she's a beanie," says David Baradas.

"Must be a pick up," declares a Makati businessman.

"Siguro domestic na sinusuwerte," laughs another.

What cynics, you think. But where does the blame lie? In some tourists who come for sex tours? In would-be mail-order brides who hope for a better life by sending their names and addresses to international pen pal magazines? In servicemen who quell their longings, after weeks at sea, on hapless victims of the trade?

Santi says that for a time in sagada, if a foreigner came with a Filipina, "babatuhin sila." The locals didn't want a repeat of Puerto Galera in Sagada. And if the Filipina wasn't that kind of woman? "Mitas nita."

What if the mixed couple were mature, say in their 40's or 50's and obviously married?

"How sweet" and "Iba na yon," were the answers.

What if the young, mixed couple had a baby, obviously theirs, in tow?

"Theo it's OK because they're a family, they're together, it changes things." But the unreleenting cynic laughs. "Of course I'd wonder, did she start out as a pick-up?"

But what if the woman was obviously well-educated, and out from a low economic level?

"Hump, pa sasyal pa siva. Siguro social climber. Gusto maging cultured, malayang ng titulo ang pangalan. She probably thinks a Filipina isn't good enough for her."

Now turn the tables. Filipino male, foreign female.

"If he's good-looking," says one male, "then it's not surprising. But if he's not then I'll think: wow, nakakoto na naman ang Pino!"

Says a woman friend: "Ang daming magandang Pino, why choose a foreigner?"

"It's machismo that makes it difficult," says the Makati businessman. "A Filipina will always adapt. She's willing to do just about anything to make a marriage work, keep her man even if it means changing her ways and bringing up the kids Western. But a Filipino has this machismo thing, a woman has to adapt to him, and maybe foreigners can't accept this."

But more nobly perhaps, could it be natural?

Filmmaker Eric de Guia married to german Katrin, definitely wants his children brought up "Filipino" that they're not even allowed to eat at an American hamburger chain. "Why should they?" he says, "when they can eat Filipino?"

Then there are those, not quite completely cynical, who spot a mixed couple, regardless of which is which and shrug and say something like this: "You know foreigners. The women, they like dark, earthy men. Something primal, animals, macho. They think they are better lovers. And the men, they like slim, dark, exotic, doe-eyed, long-haired Asians. They probably have fantasies of their being servile and erotic, able to be dominated. Hah?"

The romantic, ready to see everything with Valentine-tinted glasses, will gaze dreamily and say: "It must be true love. Look at them, willing to overcome the differences in culture, the separation from family, friends and things familiar. What a sacrifice for love."

As the man and woman make the necessary adjustments in the course of the relationship, whether it be in

everyday trivialities or in major changes such as a new language, a new religion or a new home country, it is not so much them as their children who are faced with the challenges of straddling two cultures. East or West? And where shall the twain meet?

Here a few attempts at answers.

Zoubelida Lemqadden and Rene Aquitania

Not the guy you'd bring home to mother

ZOUBEIDA Lemqadden is like a lovely girl. Slim and tiny, she has an arresting face, the kind of face that would be at home on glossy magazine covers. At 26, going on 20, she is vibrant and energetic, with a personality that radiates into every corner of the room. Before you even see her coming, you can hear her quick sentences in accented English peppered with oo, di ba, a size?

Rene Aquitania is tall, dark and unassuming, what a highland warrior should have looked like. He sports long hair tied at the nape, rubber slippers, rolled up faded jeans and a denim jacket. If you took him home to mother she would grit her teeth and demand to know what you were in a struggling 27-year-old artist.

Talkative, he isn't limiting his responses to siguro, maaari, sana, bokit hindi. He is a shy, reluctant victim to a tape recorder and questions, the answer to which it seems he'd rather keep to himself. His gaze remains fixed out the window as the evening falls over the main thoroughfares of Baguio City, his thoughts far away, probably dwelling on the space he probably thinks a Filipina isn't good enough for her."

But these two are very contrasting personalities are a couple.

Zoubelida was born in Algeria, of Muslim parentage. At the age of three the family migrated to Belgium, where they made a life for themselves in Brussels, but kept close to their Moroccan culture.

They were practising Muslims, but Zoubelida rebelled. "My parents were very strict and they wanted me to wear a turban, the long dress. But I was a teenager. I went around with my punk friends."

She finished cosmetology in school.

For 10 years she worked as a model for sculptors and painters in an art academy.

"I have always been the inspiration for artists."

In November of 1987 she took a trip to Manila intending to stay for two months.

Her friends took her to a film showing at Goethe House. It was part of a workshop

on film-making that Rene had been attending. They met and he casually invited her to see Baguio where he lived. About a week later she was. And there she stayed.

"I love Baguio," she says. "I love the weather, I have a lot of friends here, and of course, there is Baguio where he lived.

About the mountains, the beach."

When she first arrived, Zoubelida spoke very few words in English. Her mother languages are Moroccan (Arabic) and French. Rene isn't comfortable with English. A reasonable conversation, when he decides to bae ooe, is in Pilipino or Ilocano.

How did they communicate?

Zoubelida says: "I had a notion of what was said, even if I only spoke a little, so there was no problem understanding."

Rene half-jests about the early days:

"Walang problema, masaya ngn. Noong gundaga na ang Ingles niya, di pue da kaming mag-argumento, lumalabas na yung differences."

The two months became eight and then Zoubelida went back to Brussels. "I went to tell them I would live here and stay here. Everybody was angry. It was not the life they wanted for me." They had hoped that she would marry a cousin, the man chose for her, and live like a Moroccan, a Muslim. Since her return to Baguio her family, except for a younger sister, has not answered her letters. "It's hurting so much. They didn't like my decision and you can understand them. I'm so far from their dream for me... I miss them, friends cannot replace your family. That's why sometimes I have the blues."

Rene's family she doesn't see much of.

Her family is very nice, but I think, conservative. We are not married, but I think they will accept me soon."

Next to family she makes her "international" friends — Africans, Asians, Europeans. Here all her friends are Filipino. "The Filipinos are very gentle, very friendly. But the hardest part was how to talk to people, answer people. Filipinos are very shy, hardly speak straight about themselves, about their feelings. I speak openly, but they are out so daring. Sometimes they will say they like even if they don't. But it's OK. I appreciate them. Rene's friends are very good to me that sometimes he gets very jealous when they pay attention to me."

She finished cosmetology in school. For 10 years she worked as a model for sculptors and painters in an art academy. "I have always been the inspiration for artists."

In November of 1987 she took a trip to Manila intending to stay for two months.

Her friends took her



Parangal sa Daklang Pilipino awardees: from (left): Mrs. Lidy Alejandro, who received award for husband Lean Alejandro; Mrs. Labayan, for Bishop Julian Labayan; Prof. Randy David, Mrs. Felicidad Olalia, Sen. Lorenzo Tanada, Sen. Alfonso Bengzon, and Rep. Oca Santos.

Another kind of heroism

THERE seems to be in the country today a hunger for heroes, which probably means that the morale of the nation is low. A tremendous need is perceived for men who are larger than life, who are capable of superhuman feats, so that as long as such men are around, there is hope that our troubles can be surmounted. The Filipino soldier, when he is not pulling a coup, is often heroic, and soldiers have been honoured accordingly, which is not at all a bad idea.

The danger is not that we will ever lack heroes, but that we will recognise only one kind, and eventually have only one kind, the kind that bears a gun.

This is the reason for the special relevance of the Parangal sa Daklang Pilipino, an award programme of the PDP-Laban and the Jaime N. Ferrer Foundation which recently honoured six Filipinos for their commitment to the service of country and people.

These were former Senator Lorenzo M. Tanada, the country's greatest living nationalist, recipient of the Grand Award; Secretary Alfredo R.A. Bengzon, the architect of the country's drug policy; Bishop Julian Labayan who has campaigned hard for environmental protection, and launched a programme for the upliftment and protection of the Dumagats, a minority in his province of Quezon; Prof. Randolph S. David of the Third World Studies Center of the University of the Philippines whose television programme has helped enlighten the Filipino public on the crucial national issues; Rolando Olalia, the martyred labour leader; and Ledy Alejandro, the martyred youth leader. That two of the awards were posthumous show that dedication to a cause is not without risks, and that therefore it takes a great deal of courage to be in their league. Another posthumous awardee might have been the late Jaime N. Ferrer, freedom fighter during the Second World War, and an outstanding long-time public servant, who was felled by assassins while he served as Secretary of Local Government.

ments in 1987 — but for the fact that the foundation that bears his name is co-sponsor of the programme.

Nobody called them heroes — the citations did not use that word. But there is no doubt about the impact of their deeds on the survival chances of the country and that therefore they deserve the gratitude of the race. Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel who, as chairman of PDP-Laban, personally brain-stormed this award programme says, "We are merely pinpointing individuals in various fields whose performance should serve as the standard for public servants and for those who would serve others. In effect, what we are saying is that there's a wide variety of leaders in our country that we can rely upon not only for development but also for the preservation of our democratic institutions."

Rep. Oscar Santos was the workhorse who chaired the committee that searched for nominees all over the country. Says he, "I think all we wanted to do was give recognition where it is due. For instance, Sen. Tanada is high time we honoured him while he is still with us." And honour him we should, says Santos, not only for his nationalism but also for his integrity. Walang kalokohan iyan. The same could be said, incidentally, of Santos himself.

Secretary Bengzon, says Rep. Santos, stands out for the way he successfully fought for the genetics law. Consider, says Santos, that a couple of years ago, the country's total drug consumption was worth P9.2 billion. And 80 per cent of that was consumed by the upper 20 per cent of the population, while the balance of consumption of 20 per cent was shared by 80 per cent of the population. The genetics law will help correct that imbalance, he says.

If it were possible to have another awardee this year for community service, it would have been Bernabe Bucayano (Kumanderante to you) who is now proving in his native Bamban, Tarlac that a farmers cooperative can succeed in the Philippines. It was a very close choice

between him and Bishop Labayan, says Santos. Prof. Randy David, on the other hand, has helped the common man understand current public issues more than any other media person. Rolando Olalia and Ledy Alejandro were probably easy choices in the act of serving, they have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The good news is that there were plenty of nominees, and the nominations committee had to trim them down to 150 before getting the board of judges, chaired by Justice Cecilia Munoz Palma, to work. Other judges were Supreme Court Justice Rizal, UP President Jose Abueva, Dean Armando Malay, Quezon City councilor Francis Pangilinan, Fr. Nicanor of Ateneo, and former labour secretary Bonifacio Sanchez.

By launching the Parangal, the PDP-Laban has behaved like a civic organisation, perhaps a welcome innovation in Philippine politics. And they are going to have more off-season (that is, off-political season) activities, reveals Sen. Pimentel. This summer, they are scheduled to implement a nationwide "Caravan for Peace" to arouse popular commitment to civilian supremacy and constitutional order. They also hope to get a wider public understanding of the party's ideology.

"We believe in a nationalist way of developing our country," says Pimentel. "We also believe in structuring society so that wealth and power should be redistributed and not concentrated in a few." He hastens to add that they hope to do this through a programme of the government with a legislative component fully endorsed by the people.

In the meantime, he says, Congress should concentrate on two major issues: bread, meaning the economy, and justice, instead of nitpicking with the executive branch. "This is not to say that we should give up our role as fiscalizers of the government," he stresses, "but we should cut down on the antics that we in the Senate are sometimes guilty of."

On his direct consultations with the people, Santos reports that what the people want more than anything else is to see that those who took advantage of their resources are brought to jail. These include prominent figures in the Marcos government. But as it is, he says, some of these have found their way into the Senate, into the House of Representatives, and even in the powerful Commission on Appointments where they pass judgment on qualifications and competence of would-be public servants. The Sandiganbayan has not been effective, he says, because it is swamped with cases that it cannot handle. He believes, therefore, that the constitution should be amended so that the regular court can try cases now reserved only for the Sandiganbayan.

Sen. Pimentel agrees that there are constitutional provisions that are badly in need of improvement, but he wonders if some recent moves to amend the constitution are not motivated by a hidden agenda. And that hidden agenda is to remove the Senate as an obstacle to the American objective of maintaining their facilities in Philippine military bases. That could be the agenda, too, behind the proposal for a snap presidential election, as well as a discernible campaign to subvert the reputation of the Senate.

The party, he assures, will stand firmly against that foreign agenda, even as it works for its own nationalist and egalitarian cause. That cause can be served, he believes, not only by partisan electoral politics, but also by projects like Parangal sa Daklang Pilipino.

The Pilipino public, too, needs to make its own adjustments, and one of them is to adopt the attitude that being useful is once more fashionable, and doing a good job however modest and mundane also deserves not only our encouragement but also our admiration.

By promoting such a popular adjustment, the PDP-Laban hopes to prove that as a movement it is truly what Sen. Pimentel calls the wave of the future.

Pinoy produces new ornamental plants

AN AMERICAN plant tissue culture laboratory may soon put on the market an entirely new breed of aglaonema, a hardy foliage used as ornamental plants in homes and commercial establishments.

Popularly known by Filipinos as "la suerte" and native to Southeast Asia, aglaonemas come in many sizes, colours, and leaf patterns.

The plant is no ordinary "garden variety" specimen either. It is the most promising of several genus Dr Romeo R. Gutierrez of the Department of Surgery, UP-PGH, has been hybridizing during the past seven years.

If the deal pushes through, according to Gutierrez, the American company will mass produce and sell P50,000 plants in the first three years, with royalty of five to ten per cent of gross going to him.

Padilla's denunciation was echoed by Solano Mayor Epifanio Gaiman Jr. and Capt. Edgar Danao, station commander of the Solano Integrated National Police, who said that the release of the two trucks has emboldened unscrupulous persons to go on with their illegal logging activities.

The two trucks were apprehended by Captain Danao and his men last month and impounded for six weeks in the compound of the municipal building of Solano until these were ordered released upon the intercession of a certain "Virgil Castro," reportedly a son of Gov. Patricia Dumalo.

Concerned citizens and civic groups monitoring illegal logging activities in Nueva Vizcaya also expressed disgust over the release of the two trucks.

Reports by the Solano INP disclosed that Castro had claimed that the effort to release the trucks was initiated by a newly-organized provincial task force on illegal logging under Dumalo.

Danao said he resisted the efforts of Castro to release the impounded vehicles, but



Agustina Go, owner of AGUS on-the-Gulf.

milk. This is used here quite as much and as happily as it is in the Bicol region, and constitutes a major dimension of Leyteño cooking. At Agus we had a delightful salad of boiled skinned eggplants dressed with coconut milk and garnished with chopped red bell peppers. At Simugue, we had dagmay, the Leyteño laing, in which gabi leaves are tied in loose knots, and cooked in coconut milk and ginger; and a langka-crab salad, also in coconut milk. Severina Gonzalo Cam, retired teacher and dedicated cook, described to us her utan (gulay) nga bayabas, in which ripe guavas are seeded and sautéed in vegetable oil and garlic, then cooked with coconut milk/cream, a bit of brown sugar and vanilla.

Tacloban is not all gabi/gaway/talyan, however, not fish/seafood and gata. A delicious specialty we encountered was pakdol, the best of which is to be found at the DAHLIA TACLOBAN FASTFOOD AND COFFEE HOUSE (Calle Real, tel. 321-3427), owned and run by Anacorita (Coring) and Roman Reyes.

Pakdol is carabef stew — bones, marrow and meat — with pechay, flavoured and made fragrant by lemongrass, ginger and leeks. It is made only from the back legs of the carabao (carabef is a Leyte favourite, and is legal, because only animals beyond working age are slaughtered), and carefully skinned and simmered and fragrant. The broth is golden and fragrant; the meat tender and of good flavour. All the carabao legs their butchers can supply are cooked daily by Coring, and always sold out — eaten at lunch and dinner, taken home (they pack servings in plastic bags for the inevitable rush), consumed as pulutan or (the broth) for post-hangover reviving.

Coring is pretty, feminine, and power-packed. She started in the business with three calderos on a counter to supplement her husband's income. Starting with a P20 pulutan, she served paksiw na isda, pritong isda and gulay na langka, charging P30 and P25.

Now Dahlia sa Iyo seats more than a hundred, is busy all day, and some of the Reyes' five children

earn salaries for helping out in the restaurant as well as in the raising of pigs, chickens and vegetables.

Dahlia sa Iyo, Agus and Simugue House, present success stories that warm the heart. Many of us think of the provinces with some pity, since they lack the consumer goods, the big buildings, the opportunities, the glitz of Manila and Cebu. Of course the Amorsolo landscapes do conceal poverty and oppression, the lack of education and training, services and opportunities. The provinces certainly need better hospitals, more industries and less unemployment, more development. But the happy side of the picture is sketched by people like the Reyeses, the Gios and the Amors, who make their own way, create their own development, and build solidly within their communities.

Wherever we went, whomever we asked, we were told that Leyteño food was ordinary — just a lot of vegetables, rice and tubers (camote, gabi, kamote, taho, gaway, etc.), fish (generally roasted on coal), and less frequently, meat (usually boiled or roasted). The vegetable dishes are considered so ordinary that few are served in restaurants (pinakbet is more often available). Yet we found a good variety of treatments of the riches of the environment, that could be shared with other Filipinos. We also found knowledgeable and alert people who knew and loved their food culture.

Claia Filipinas, Pg.D., dean of arts and sciences at the Divine Word University (familiarly called D-Wo) is a Cebuana, who looks at Leyteño food contrastively, and with insight and affection. She it was who dug out dishes, informants, and experiences for us, as well as explained contrasts with Tagalog and Cebuano food. Delia Ruiz, Tagala from Quezon City, owns the only Tagalog restaurants in Tacloban (Mandau Fastfood and Don's Cabin) and, by marketing herself and feeding local civic groups, has learned as well as the tastes of Leyte.

Dr Romeo Gutierrez shows the new plant he developed, dubbed as "Illumination."

From the provinces

COTABATO CITY: The Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), Western Mindanao region, in a special election held last Saturday at the Regional Trial Court of Maguindanao elected Macabangkit B. Lanto as its governor.

The election was ordered by the Supreme Court to be conducted simultaneously all over the country after it nullified the results of the IBP election in June, 1989.

Lanto, who would have been elected unopposed if not for the IBP mandatory rule requiring an opponent, is the past president of the IBP Lantao del Sur-Marawi City chapter and former assemblyman and speaker of Autonomous Region 12. He is a UP law alumnus and as a Fulbright-Hays fellow. He obtained his masters degree at New York University where he is also a PhD candidate.

All the presidents of the various IBP chapters in Western Mindanao who were the voting delegates were present. Lanto was nominated by the host Cotabato chapter.

Among the programmes, which Lanto wants pursued, is the raising of the standard of the legal profession, improvement of the administration of justice, and the strengthening of the legal aid programme.

QUEZON CITY: Several business establishments were destroyed yesterday when a fire reportedly caused by faulty electrical wiring struck in a schueded area in Barangay Abanon, 10 kilometres from the City Hall, on Saturday, a day after they were kidnapped by a man driving a motorawak.

Investigators said the fire broke out at 11.45 am and was placed under control an hour late.

The business establishments destroyed by the fire included a heavy equipment warehouse, a spare parts store, and a hardware owned by one Antonio Tan.

Probers said it was possible that faulty electrical wiring caused the blaze because witnesses saw heavy smoke coming from the ceilings of the establishments before the fire started.

Nobody was injured in the blaze.

BATANGAS: Members of class 1969 of Batangas West High School will hold their homecoming on April 15, Easter Sunday, at the BWHS quadrangle in Lemery, Batangas.

Homecoming organisers led by batch '69 president Vicente Marasigan, (406346-51); Ayet de Roxas (572081) or Aida Lucero-Cinco (521251); Lita Leonor Manguera, Gil Punzalan or Nestor Tagle.

Marasigan urged all members of the class to join the affair or call Marasigan, (406346-51); Ayet de Roxas (572081) or Aida Lucero-Cinco (521251); Lita Leonor Manguera, Gil Punzalan or Nestor Tagle.

MANILA: Rep. Carlos M. Padilla (LDP, Nueva Vizcaya) denounced the release of two cargo trucks reportedly used in the hauling of illegally cut logs.

The truck was impounded earlier by PCINP elements in Solano town.

Padilla's denunciation was echoed by Solano Mayor Epifanio Gaiman Jr. and Capt. Edgar Danao, station commander of the Solano Integrated National Police, who said that the release of the two trucks has emboldened unscrupulous persons to go on with their illegal logging activities.

The two trucks were apprehended by Captain Danao and his men last month and impounded for six weeks in the compound of the municipal building of Solano until these were ordered released upon the intercession of a certain "Virgil Castro," reportedly a son of Gov. Patricia Dumalo.

Concerned citizens and civic groups monitoring illegal logging activities in Nueva Vizcaya also expressed disgust over the release of the two trucks.

Reports by the Solano INP disclosed that Castro had claimed that the effort to release the trucks was initiated by a newly-organized provincial task force on illegal logging under Dumalo.

Danao said he resisted the efforts of Castro to release the impounded vehicles, but

BUTUAN CITY: The police station commander in Bayugan town, Agusan del Sur was shot dead by his common-law wife, a PC report said.

Lieut Col Enrique Lumbaz, Agusan del Sur, PC provincial commander and police superintendent, identified the slain police station commander as Sgt Eddie Puy of Bayugan.

Sergeant Puy was hit in the chest by a bullet fired from his own .38 caliber revolver and was pronounced dead by the attending physician upon arrival at Bayugan Community Hospital.

His assailant was identified as Adelina Palenz, 43. She was immediately arrested and is now detained at the Bayugan police station.

The shooting occurred in their rented residence in Bayugan, Lumbaz said.

The assailant was identified as Adelina Palenz, 43. She was immediately arrested and is now detained at the Bayugan police station.

Meanwhile, the principal suspect in the murder and rape of the two girls was arrested by NBI agents. Arrested in Antipolo, Rizal, was Alberto Saptan of San Carlos, Pangasinan, who allegedly abducted the victims and took them to Aban, San Carlos City, Friday, where he and five others gang-raped the girls before murdering them. The victims are nieces of Bulletin reporter Benjamin Rosario.

The bodies of the two children were found in a schueded area in Barangay Abanon, 10 kilometres from the City Hall, on Saturday, a day after they were kidnapped by a man driving a motorawak.

Sgt. Leonardo Cayahay and Pfc. Menem Magali who found the victims' bodies said Nikki Ann's rapists twisted her neck and smashed her head with a big rock.

Young Angele Ann suffered worse fate. She was raped and sodomized before her attackers broke her right leg and bashed her head with the same rock they used on Nikki Ann.

At the end of 1989, Beltran said the number of NPA-affected barangays was reduced to 148, with 80 classified as influenced, while 64 were listed as infiltrated or a 7.51 per cent decrease in the number of insurgent-affected barangays.

He said last year, there was a significant decrease in insurgency-related violent incidents in the province, resulting in 28 casualties.

On combat operations, Beltran said the command initiated a total of 626 security operations which resulted in 22 encounters with NPA rebels and resulted in six NPA rebels killed, 36 captured, while 84 surrendered.

SAN CARLOS CITY: The intercession of President Aquino and Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos was asked by the grieved parents and relatives in the case of two Montessori school girls who were raped and murdered by suspected drug addicts in this city.

The heavily bruised bodies of Nikki Ann S. Nohleza, 9, and her sister Angele Anne, 7, were found in a schueded place in barangay Aganon after a round-the-clock search conducted by the police.

Government Corporate Counsel Eddir Rosario and grandfather of the authorities to act fast on the case which shocked this city.

He filed the appeal as witness identified one of five of the rapist-murderers.

The identity of the first suspect was revealed to the police by his own father and brother, the suspect however, was still at large.

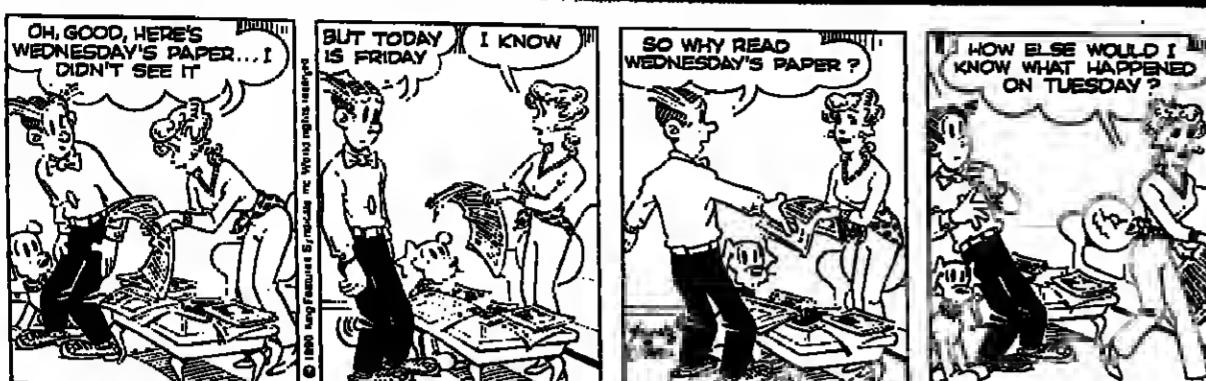
Witnesses said the two girls were with three other schoolmates when they were picked up by five tricycle-riders men. The three other girls, however, were released by the murderers.

The Nohleza sisters were taken to a hideout of drug addicts in barangay Aganon, it was learned.

In asking the help of Secretary Ramos, the Nohleza family through Rex Nohleza, 38, father of the girls, recalled that it was Ramos who stopped the rash of killings in this city in the early 70s.

Nohleza said it is surprising that the investigator and some local officials were dragging their feet on the investigation work.

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Garry Trudeau



AGATHA CRUMBLE — By Bill Hoest



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



B.C. — By Johnny Hart

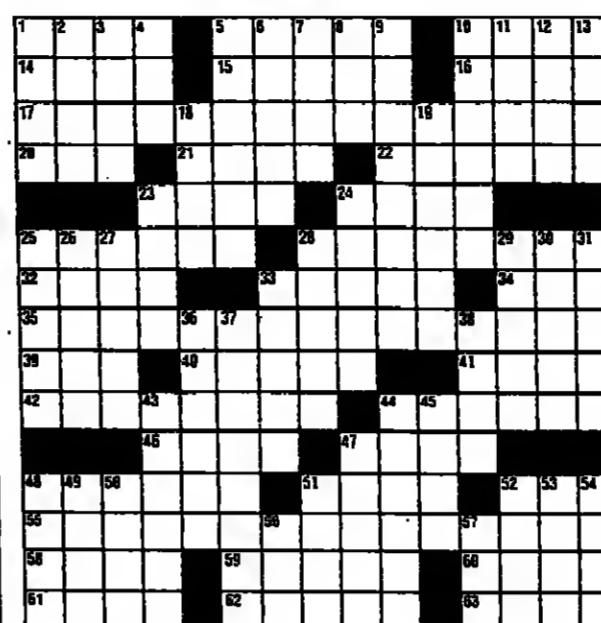
aplomb



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Bandleader
- 2 Sailor's saint
- 3 Perused
- 4 Dickens' "Sketches by —"
- 5 Peeks down
- 6 Beside
- 7 Bog down
- 8 Sound of the waasel?
- 9 Roadside rest
- 10 Indecent
- 11 Part of an Eastern church
- 12 Inlets
- 13 Movie pioneer
- 14 Bread spread
- 15 Nobelist for literature 1948
- 16 Chow —
- 17 River: Brazil vs. Virginia
- 18 Haater
- 19 Curse
- 20 Catchword, at times
- 21 Costly vasa
- 22 Author Ephron
- 23 Full-bodied
- 24 Competed with
- 25 Capital of Yemen
- 26 Units of loudness
- 27 Corrida cheer
- 28 Laka: South America vs. North America
- 29 Time in D.C.
- 30 Kitchen fixtures
- 31 Create e cardigan
- 32 Politician Harold and family
- 33 Authors Charlie and Martin
- 34 To ba. In Brast
- 35 Author Kingsley
- 36 Poplars
- 37 Canadian tribe
- 38 Letter from Athens
- 39 Ocean: South vs. North
- 40 Melee
- 41 Commend
- 42 Pay the pot
- 43 Port in Israel
- 44 Gorbachev's denials
- 45 New Mexico resort

DOWN

- 1 Frost
- 2 Reddish horses
- 3 Screen's Greene
- 4 Conceal, of old: Var.
- 5 Boarder
- 6 —
- 7 —
- 8 —
- 9 —
- 10 —
- 11 —
- 12 —
- 13 —
- 14 —
- 15 —
- 16 —
- 17 —
- 18 —
- 19 —
- 20 —
- 21 —
- 22 —
- 23 —
- 24 —
- 25 —
- 26 —
- 27 —
- 28 —
- 29 —
- 30 —
- 31 —
- 32 —
- 33 —
- 34 —
- 35 —
- 36 —
- 37 —
- 38 —
- 39 —
- 40 —
- 41 —
- 42 —
- 43 —
- 44 —
- 45 —
- 46 —
- 47 —
- 48 —
- 49 —
- 50 —
- 51 —
- 52 —
- 53 —
- 54 —
- 55 —
- 56 —
- 57 —
- 58 —
- 59 —
- 60 —
- 61 —

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

THIRD-HAND LOW!

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♦ A 10 9

♦ K Q 8 3

♦ A Q 6 5 2

♦ Q 5 4

♦ J 8 3 2

♦ Q J 6 5

♦ 10 6 5

♦ 10 9 8 4

♦ 7 3

WEST

♦ Q 5 4

♦ J 3 8

♦ K 10 4 3

♦ A J 9 2

♦ K J

SOUTH

♦ K 7 6

♦ K 10 4 3

♦ A J 9 2

♦ K 10

WEST

♦ Q 5 4

♦ J 3 8

♦ A 9 9

♦ —

SOUTH

♦ K 7

♦ K 10

WEST

♦ —

SOUTH

♦ —

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ATTENTION!

FINANCIAL MANAGER
PURCHASING MANAGER
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS

Is this you?

We Can
Help You!
Pass some of the
burden to us and
contact

BOODAI CARGO
for
"Quick Relief"

BOODAI CARGO
Tel. 4817708-4847937-4837650
Fax: 30157 BACARGO, Fax: 4837651



FinPak
Original financial package
Integrated written in DBase III with manual. KD 29/- only (new version arrived).

CPU 80286 OPERATED 16 BIT IBM COMPATIBLE

VIP-N286-10	12.9 MHz 11.2-SI
VIP-B286-10	11.9 MHz 9.8-SI
VIP-B286-12A	15.6 MHz 13.7-SI
VIP-B286-16A	20.1 MHz 17.6-SI

Computer Systems with Hard Disk
EGA/VGA Monitor and Printer +

STAR
128 COLUMN
KD 45/-

OWN ANY ONE OF THE ABOVE MODEL
IN 12 EASY MONTHLY
INSTALMENTS AS LOW AS ABOUT

FOR FULL DETAILS CALL

AL-WAZZAN STORE
Tel. 4816222, 4833692 4839749, 4839753
FAX 4833693 TELEX 23151 - SAHNI
CANADA DRY STREET SHUWAIKH

ACCOMMODATION

Available

INDEPENDENT fully furnished room, in a central AC furnished flat, in Abu-Halifa. Rent KD85, with all amenities - inclusive of water/electricity. Tel. 3725357. (AT1-51570-3)

NUGRA, Khaldoon Street, one room, furnished with tele. facilities for one or two bachelors to share with an Indian family. Rent KD80. Tel. Oberoi, 4740301, 2644645, res. (AT1-51534-3)

MISHRIF, 2 storey villa, deluxe CAC with carpets and curtains including a garden (no middlemen, please). Tel. 5327104, 2-6pm. (AT1-51526-3)

FURNITURE. Fully furnished room/2 rooms, with separate entrances, tele. and kitchen facilities for working ladies/couples. Tel. 4848368 off, 5644178, res. after 4 pm. (AT1-51555-3)

SALMIYA, near the Farah Centre. One room for one Indian bachelor. Bus routes 14, 15, 19, 30, 505. Tel. John Rodriguez, 5725039 res. 4846175 office. (AT1-51527-2)

SHARQ, near the Firdous Cinema. One room with CAC and tele. facilities for three persons. Tel. Salaman, 2424713, 2425709. (AT1-51530-3)

BAYAN, 2 storey 3 bedroom CAC villa, reception, sitting and dining room, servant's quarters, garden and garage. Rent KD85. Tel. 5339174 (No agent), 4-7 pm. (AT2-51569-3)

JABRIYA, 2 bedrooms CAC, annexe. Tel. 5313152. (AT1-51545-3)

MISHRIF, in good location. Villa, CAC with 5 bedrooms, 4 halls, servants quarter, swimming pool, 2 gardens and garage. Tel. 5324848. (AT1-51502-3)

FLAT in Bombay Mazagoan and house for sale in Delhi. Tel. 2421389, 9 am - 2 pm, evening 6 pm - 10 pm. (AT1-51543-3)

NISSAN Liberty, 1985, red, fully automatic. AC, 78,000 kms, insured upto Dec 1990, in very good condition. KD750. Tel. 2451489. (AT6-51550-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

Qatar Real Estate
Tel. 2406592,
2406593

Expat letting
SADWA: Indep. 1 bed, courtyard, pool, car/pk (suit single/couple) KD 180/-
3x3 Brms Apt w/lounge - dinner KD280/380
Villas: various specs. (4 nos.) KD500/-800
MESSILIA: Bawali street villa + 3 Brms, lonely garden
KD1800
Apartment 2/3 Brms - new KD195/225
STIBRA: Villas 4/5 bed KD750/-800
Please tel 2521548/7 for more information.

Required

Male or Female
Dress Designer/
Master Cutter
(Philips)
To work with British
lady
Salary negotiable.
Tel. Karen 5333 708

Required Draftsman

Full time/ part time vacancy exists for experienced
draftsman. Minimum 5 years' experience in air-
conditioning, plumbing and
fire-fighting drawings.
Interested please contact on
Tel. 4749854/4749864 for interview.

For rent

Deluxe Villa in Salwa
4 bedrooms, large reception, hall, modern kitchen, 3
bathrooms, washrooms &
store plus annex with 2
rooms & 1 bathroom, central
cooling/heating & telephone.
Furniture may also be
offered.
Tel. 3982425/5656485
after 4 pm.

VILLA FOR RENT

A very good quality
villa at a reasonable
price, for immediate
rent.

For details
Tel: 4744266

JAGUAR XJ12 HE, 1982, 73,000
kms, new engine, recent paint, in
excellent condition. KD3000.
cash. No bargaining. Tel.
2511286, 6-8 pm. (AT1-51526-3)

CITROEN CX25 Prestige 1986
automatic, 49,000 kms in good
condition. KD1800. Tel. Adel,
2633157-2633479. (AT2-51551-3)

CHEVROLET Sprint 1.3 GL, 1988,
white, 18,000 kms, automatic, four
doors, hatchback, AC, stereo
radio and cassette system, driven
by a lady. In showroom condition.
KD1850. Tel. 4884465. (AT1-51536-3)

HONDA Accord 1982, 4 doors,
white, fully automatic, Kenwood
radio with amplifier, brand new
tires and engine in excellent condition.
Best offer. Tel. 2452047. (AT2-AJ-3)

MAZDA 626, 1983, AC, manual,
red, 94,000 kms, in good condition.
KD450. Cash. Tel. Macdonald
5629452, 4-8 pm. (AT1-51586-2)

GE-washer with large capacity,
KD90; GE-dryer, KD20; micro-
wave, KD30; Philips vacuum,
large chairs, carpets, rug, plants,
etc. Tel. 5326041, after 8 pm.
(AT1-51554-2)

NISSAN Liberty, 1985, red, fully
automatic. AC, 78,000 kms,
insured upto Dec 1990, in very
good condition. KD750. Tel. 2451489.
(AT6-51550-3)

AVAILABLE from Faheehel,
Sabahiya, Riqqa, Abu Halifa to
Jabriya, Salwa, Hawalli for minis-
try timing. Tel. Mohammed,
3610724, 1:30 - 10 pm.
(AT2-51559-3)

SERVICES

Transport

AVAILABLE from Faheehel,
Sabahiya, Riqqa, Abu Halifa to
Jabriya, Salwa, Hawalli for minis-
try timing. Tel. Mohammed,
3610724, 1:30 - 10 pm.
(AT2-51559-3)

MAID required: Filipino, or
educated Sri Lankan for a small
Egyptian family. Must speak good
English and have transferable
visa. Tel. 2408654 for an appoint-
ment at Al Muthanna Complex,
Fahad Al Salem Street.
(AT1-EJ-HU-3)

Baby Sitting

AVAILABLE in Salmiya, Amman
Street. For details 5650145.
(AT1-51553-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MUSLIM maid required for a
young family, to live-in, must
speak English and have transferable
visa. Tel. 5654865, 1 - 4 pm.
(AT2-51580-2)

MARKET PLACE

Al Ibrahim Taxi

Tel. 2400013,
2400014, 2400015

Farwaniya branch
Tel. 4745600,
4745900

BARGAIN HOUSE

Offers you the best deals in town on
good quality used furniture and
appliances. Visit us in Salmiya
(Salem Al Mubarak Street).

Tel: 5744017 - 5744018.

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas and
flats with swimming
pool

Tel: 2401908 - 2407677
2451489 - 2451476
FAX 2403260
The All Real Estate

IBA KAMI KAPAG

CARGO ANG
PINAG - USAPAN
DOOR TO DOOR
PHILIPPINES

484-6000

Al-Naqeeb & Khattar Co. W.I.L.I.

Al-Naqeeb & Khattar

AL FARAJ CARGO

(Subsidiary of Jamal Al Ghanim Est.)

For Professional Services by Air-Sea-Land

to DESTINATIONS WORLD-WIDE

* Special Air-Services to BOMBAY, TRU, ANDREIA, COLOMBO, DELHI,

KARACHI, ROPE, BANGKOK, MANILA

* Regular Container Services to: COLOMBO-BOMBAY-COCHIN-MADRAS-

MANGALORE-EUROPE-U.S.A.-CANADA-AUSTRALIA

* SPECIAL - DOOR TO DOOR TO THE PHILIPPINES

* SPECIAL PACKING WITH FREE PICK UP OF YOUR GOODS FROM YOUR PREMISES.

Call Today: # 2463841 or 2463642

AIRFREIGHT IT!

484-6009

STUDIO AL-MOAMEN

2408378 - 2439400

- * We are at your service anytime
- * Shortly KONICA nice print system
- * Introducing Q.A.S. - no wash system
- * Video & Audio-cassette photos
- * Civil ID. Passport, & B.W. Photos
- * Wedding & family photographs
- * Now bring film for D.P. and get gift photograph

FOR PACKING & FORWARDING
BY AIR ALL OVER THE WORLD
CONTACT: **AL-SAWAN CO.**
SPECIAL SHIPPING SERVICE TO
BOMBAY, COLOMBO, COCHIN,
MADRAS & MANGALORE.
DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE TO
MANILA
SHUWAIKH ☎ 4737723, 4734960, 4737983, 4740886.
CITY ☎ 2433356, 2413740 FAHAHEEL ☎ 3927885.

FOR RENT

Entire building in Abu Halifa or apartments
consisting of:

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a sitting room and a kitchen
provided with a central AC system, also with a central video
system and a swimming pool; and all at reasonable rents.
For more information call:
2466880/3716415

**IMMEDIATELY
WANTED**
for classic Fast Food Restaurant in
Salmiya

- Two Chief Cooks for International Food preferably experienced in French and Swiss Food
- Two waiters - Four waitresses

Pls contact for interview Tel. 5644850, 9027538 afternoon

2 insertions KD 4. Three insertions KD 5

ARAB TIMES
CLASSIFIEDS COUPON
Conditions:
1. Advertisements may be mailed in only on this coupon, or
preferably, completed at the Arab Times office between 8.30 a.m.
— 1 p.m. and 4.30 — 6 p.m.
2. To complete the coupon, follow the sequence of the information
given in above printed advertisements, for desired section
heading. All advertisements will be printed according to Arab
Times format and are subject to editing.
3. Advertisements must not exceed 25 words including name
and telephone number.
4. Text must be typed or clearly printed. No alterations or
cancellations will be made after publication.
5. Advertisements of personal nature involving business trans-
actions will not be accepted, nor any matrimonial adver-
tisements.
6. The Arab Times is not responsible for postal delays.

Section heading
.....
.....
.....

Sender's Name
Address

Telephone
.....

Coupons and payment must be mailed to:
ARAB TIMES CLASSIFIEDS
P.O. BOX: 2270
13023 SAFAT KUWAIT.

NAME CHANGE

I. RATANBAI Shanker Pardeshi,
holder of Indian Passport No. S
260096 embraced Islam and
changed my name to Fatima Pardeshi.
(AT1-51539-3)

I. VIJAY Shanker Pardeshi, holder
of Indian Passport No. S
854558 embraced Islam and
changed my name to Ahmed Pardeshi.
(AT1-51538-3)

I. RAJANI Shanker Pardeshi, holder
of Indian Passport No. E
876361 embraced Islam and
changed my name to Ayesha P



KPBC: 1st runner-up but still smiling

Bad coaching?

SIR, I am a reader of the Arab Times and through it I learned that a new basketball tournament, the KPBL League, was started this Friday. I think that this is probably one of the best and most well-organized tournaments that the Filipinos have ever organized.

I also got a chance, through this League, to see my favorite team — KPBC — in action on Friday. This team has a number of talented players, who are well-supported by their team manager Abdulla Tifuni. But unfortunately they lost to a much better team this week.

I have played the game at college level and think the problem of the team is its coach. A number of players resent the way that the team is handled on the court.

Anyone who watched KPBC in action must have noticed that the coach used only six players for the whole game while there were five more players sitting in the bench. The players on the bench were also quite good and KPBC could have won the match had the coach used his players in a much better way and given rest to his top squad.

As it happened the players hardly had any rest and were tired towards the end of the match. In the match against KHC Bayan, KPBC were leading by nearly 30 points at one stage of the match, so why did the coach not rest his top players and use all the ones sitting on the bench. In this way the best players would have been in better condition for the latter games.

The bad handling of the team reflected on their performance towards the end and it is quite clear where the blame should lie. I pity the players and the manager. I hope that the manager will do something about it.

A concerned KPBC fan
(name and address supplied)

EEI-BURGAN beat KPBC to win the One-Day Championship as the Kuwait Pinoy Basketball League (KPBL) got off to a magnificent start at the Keifan Gymnasium on Friday, to the delight of nearly 1,000 Filipinos who watched the first day's proceedings.

The day's activities commenced at 9:00 am with the brief opening ceremonies emceed by Marie Palacios and Ed Balanag.

The parade of the 10 participating teams with their respective charming muses followed with timely execution to the tune of the Stars and Stripes march music.

The participants, as well as the crowd, were welcomed by the KPBL secretariat, headed by Guillermo Ham Limdimas, secretary-general who stressed in his welcome address that the KPBL and its activities are concentrated on the sport that is much loved by the Filipinos. He thanked all those who've helped and waited patiently for the staging of the event.

The oath of sportsmanship was led by Edgardo Mateo, the KPBL commissioner and this was followed by the formal opening of the games.

This was then followed by the presentation of the official theme



EEI-BURGAN: One-Day Championship winners

song of the KPBL 1990 season, "One Shining Moment."

Next was the judgement of "Miss KPBL", Best Muse, and the "Best Uniform." Chosen by the panel of judges composed of KPBL officials to be Miss KPBL was Miss Alice Versoza of the KPBC team. The Best Uniform award went to KHC-Bayan team.

The drawing of lots for the One-Day Championship followed before the exit of the participating teams.

The commercial toss was next, and this proceeded with the assistance of Ms KPBL, Ms Alice Versoza and Bert Marin, the labour attaché from the Philippine embassy in Kuwait. Also present were other staff members of the Philippine embassy, namely Mohammad Taha Guionoma, Omar Mustari, Al Santos and Lando Caburao (bowling king).

Eliminations

First game: Kay and Associates lost to KRP-Kuwait Regency Palace, 31-38.

Second game: KHC-Bayan beat Nissan Al Babtain, 59-35.

Third game: KPBC beat KDD, 66-41.

Fourth game: Al Ghaniat beat Trico, 36-30.

Fifth game: EEI-Burgan beat Overland, 57-30.

Semifinals

First game: KHC-Bayan vs KRP.

KHC-Bayan blasted KRP 43-28 at the start of the semifinal round to qualify for the finals. The first half was close (16-13 in favour of KHC) as speedy Bolito managed to keep his team within striking distance of its eventual conqueror. The second half however, was an entirely different story as Mr X-Ortega responding to the pro-KHC gallery exploded for 25 points to seal the fate of KRP. He made a total of 37 points and was supported by Ahubo with 10. On the KRP side only Bolito managed to score in twin marks, 15 points.

Finals

Lots were drawn to determine who among the 3 teams — KHC-Bayan, KPBC, EEI-Burgan will play each other first.

First game: KHC-Bayan vs KPBC.

KPBC was too much to handle for the Mr X led KHC-Bayan squad. Final score was 95-74. Lito de la Cruz, the 1987 Palarrug Filipino MVP paced his team with 21 points, followed by Castro 18, Domingo 13.



Miss KPBL doing the ceremonial toss.

Second game: KPBC vs Trico. A re-match of sorts, KPBC outdistanced the Trico 5-10 to the homestretch, final score 48-41. It was a close contest all throughout reminiscent of the 1989 showdown, KPBC vs Magnolia.

Third game: KPBC vs EEI-Burgan. Final score was EEI-Burgan 65, KPBC 63. It was the best match of the day as both teams had no clear advantage until the dying seconds of the game. KPBC losing its ace playmaker Lito de la Cruz on fouls found refuge in the combination of Castro, Domingo, Arganoza, Barcelona and Perez with 37 points and Abubo had 18.

Second game: KPBC vs EEI-Burgan.

KPBC having the disadvantage of playing 2 consecutive games prior to this match lost a squeaker to the well rested EEI-Burgan 5. Final score was EEI-Burgan 65, KPBC 63. It was the best match of the day as both teams had no clear advantage until the dying seconds of the game. KPBC losing its ace playmaker Lito de la Cruz on fouls found refuge in the combination of Castro, Domingo, Arganoza, Barcelona and Perez with 37 points and Abubo had 18.

Final game: KPBC vs EEI-Burgan.

EEI-Burgan emerged champions, followed by KPBC 1st runner-up, and KHC-Bayan 2nd runner-up.

The Mabuhay Mythical Five as chosen by the KPBL officials were: Greg Lugo — EEI-Burgan; Garcia — EEI-Burgan; X-Ortega — KHC-Bayan; Lito de la Cruz — KPBC; Edwin Castro — KPBC.

The Mabuhay MVP award was given to "The Samiya Boy" — Edwin Castro for his overall impact in the day's competition.

"KPBL" meeting

A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, at the Mabuhay Restaurant at exactly 8:00 pm. All teams are requested to send their representatives to the meeting for drawing of lots to determine groupings for the games proper, tentatively set for Thursday, February 22. Watch out for the schedule of games in the Arash Times.

But barely one minute later at 15-0 down, Cane signalled to the chair umpire he was quitting.

"I served well in the first set. Then it was over," Cane said.

Becker's semifinal opponent is Magnus Gustafsson who wore down Jonas Svensson 6-7 (3-7) 7-6 (7-3) 6-4 in an all-Swedish duel.

Second seed Carl-Uwe Steib, ranked 16 in the world, toppled lanky Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic 6-3 3-6 6-4 to set up the prospect of an all-German final.

Navratilova overwhelms Whitlinger

CHICAGO, Feb 17, (Reuters): Martina Navratilova fell short of perfection yesterday but the top seed was still far more than Tammy Whitlinger could handle at the \$500,000 Chicago women's tennis tournament.

Navratilova just missed out on a second straight shutout as she beat Whitlinger 6-0 6-1 to reach today's semifinals against her former doubles partner, Pam Shriver.

Shriver beat fellow-American Liisa Harvey-Wild 6-1 6-2 as the seeded players romped through their quarterfinal matches.

The other semifinal will have second-seeded American Zina Garrison going against number five Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria in a rematch of last year's semifinal won by Garrison.

Garrison beat Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-3 7-5, while Maleeva overwhelmed Ros Fairbank of the US 6-1 6-0.

Navratilova has been on top of her form this week. She has lost just five games in her three matches and had a winning string of 24 games before losing the fourth game of the second set against Whitlinger.

Navratilova totally dominated the first set as fellow-American Whitlinger won only seven points.

"You have to pour it on. Give some of these girls a little, they take a lot," said Navratilova.

The winning habit appears likely to continue against Shriver. Navratilova has a 34-3 career edge against Shriver and has won the last 24 times.

Shriver's last win against Navratilova was in the semifinals of the 1982 US Open.

Navratilova was amused to notice Shriver scouting her match against Whitlinger.

"I saw her watching," Navratilova said. "I don't know what she could learn that she doesn't know already."

Becker in semifinals

BRUSSELS, Feb 17 (Reuters): Top seed Boris Becker moved into the semifinals of the \$600,000 Belgian Indoor ATP Tennis Tournament yesterday after Italian Paolo Cane retired with a back injury while trailing 6-4 3-2.

Cane, who flew back to Milan for treatment after suffering the injury in his second-round match on Wednesday, had been a doubtful starter.

The temperamental Italian, who beat Mats Wilander in leading his country to victory over Sweden in the Davis Cup first round, appeared not to be hampered by his injury until the fourth game of the second set.

In the fifth game he was visibly holding back when serving but continued to play after receiving medical assistance during the statutory break.

But barely one minute later at 15-0 down, Cane signalled to the chair umpire he was quitting.

"I served well in the first set. Then it was over," Cane said.

Becker's semifinal opponent is Magnus Gustafsson who wore down Jonas Svensson 6-7 (3-7) 7-6 (7-3) 6-4 in an all-Swedish duel.

Second seed Carl-Uwe Steib, ranked 16 in the world, toppled lanky Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic 6-3 3-6 6-4 to set up the prospect of an all-German final.

ATP respond to McEnroe charges

TORONTO, Feb 17, (Reuters): The ATP Tour defended itself yesterday against criticisms made by John McEnroe against the ATP's chief executive officer, Hamilton Jordan.

McEnroe on Thursday aimed his well-known temper at the new Tour, which he called disappointing, and at Jordan, whom he called an absentee-leader who "doesn't know anything about tennis," and who "knows how to take advantage of us."

Wayne Richmond, the ATP Tour's commissioner of North America, vigorously defended Jordan yesterday.

Hamilton would like to be in every place all the time," Richmond said, adding that Jordan had made an appearance at the San Francisco event last week.

complained about were ridiculous. I'll give him the money (for the doctor)."

"I actually had a lot of respect for the guy coming into the match," Berger added. "He's a great player and I don't know him well, but I'm sure he's a nice guy. But I don't really feel that needs to be done."

The fourth-ranked McEnroe, who served brilliantly throughout, did not argue with Berger. "I'd spend money to do that myself — to check and see that my vision hasn't faltered," McEnroe said. "I might affect my ability to judge circumstances."

On the occasion of the

10th Gulf Football Championship

you are invited to participate in

بيتزا ايطاليا
PIZZA ITALIA
Quiz Competition

in co-operation with

ARAB TIMES

Who will win the Arab Gulf Cup?**GENERAL RULES:**

1. Newspaper coupon is only accepted if attached to Pizza Italia receipt for purchase of minimum KD 3.000.
2. Pizza Italia Instant Prize is awarded with the minimum order KD 3.000 until supply lasts.
3. You can enter as many coupons to increase your winning chances.
4. Drop the coupon in the designated boxes at Pizza Italia Outlets.
5. Valid until March 5th 1990.

FIRST PRIZE

TOYOTA COROLLA

Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer & Sons Est.

ROYAL DAEWOO

<p

Filcheck rated chess tourney starting Feb 23

THE first round match of the first rated tournament organised by the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) will start on Friday, February 23 at 9:00 am at the new Kabayan Restaurant.

All participants have been divided into two groups A and B according to their rating and previous tournament standing. Each group shall play a 7-round Swiss system to determine the champion and the three runners up. Each player must make his first 45 moves in 1-1/2 hours and the succeeding 15 moves in 30 minutes. A player who exceeds the time regulation will be adjudged loser and his opponent winner of the game. A 30-minute defaulting time will

be observed and a player who defaults two consecutive games shall be considered withdrawn from the rest of the tournament.

First round schedule: (Odd Nos. - white versus even Nos. - black)

Group A - 9:00 am 1. Mauro Burlat, 2. Dads Pates, 3. Diony Bartolome, 4. Mel Espioosa, 5. Hussain Ahmad, 6. Robert Vargas, 7. Jun Emutan, 8. Gil Opiana Jr., 9. Bernard de los Reyes, 10. Nilo Mastangob, 11. Jigs Acodisen, 12. Nonoy Caro, 13. Dedi Hermas, 14. Silver Salvado, 15. Rolly Mercado, 16. Stanley Sawi, 17. Jun Alejandro, 18. Banua Bucay, 19. Alex Espedilla, 20. Fred Meraigan, 21. Vic Corpuz, 22. Robert Darz.

Group B - 9:00 am 1. Thony Monreal, 2. Rey Cortez, 3. Niel Dunlao, 4. Jess Betguen, 5. Romy Pagaduan, 6. Chito Barrios, 7. Rem Morales, 8. Atil Macaya, 9. Arni Martinez, 10. Ramon Cortado, 11. Ingemar Vendiola, 12. Rolly Boado, 13. Rading Moje, 14. Nanding Pollicario, 15. Arnel Mantino, 16. Danilo Calasin, 17. Rey Mangorong, 18. Edwin Borigas, 19. Ver Farrales, 20. Romy Racaza, 21. Edward Racaza.

Meanwhile, the club's election of its first set of officers was held on Friday at the new Kabayan Restaurant.

Acting president Edward Racaza, Jr.

presided over the election and called on all elected officials to convene on Friday, February 23 at 9:00 am at the club's headquarters to formalise the position of each officer as called for in the constitution.

The following members were elected as board of directors:

1. Aureliano Samay, 2. Barrios, Chito; 3. Betguen, Jess, 4. Bongas, Edwin; 5. Calasin, Danny, 6. Cortado, Mon, 7. Dunlao, Niel; 8. Lagmay, Teddy; 9. Macaya, Atil; 10. Mercado, Jun; 11. Moje, Rading; 12. Mores, Thony; 13. Morales, Rane, 14. Pollicario, Nanding; 15. Racaza, Edward.

Acting president Edward Racaza, Jr.

Padilla, Elliott triumph

INGLEWOOD, California, Feb 17. (AP): Doug Padilla won the two-mile national record time, and Peter Elliott of Britain won a mile race for the second time in a week, last night in the Los Angeles Times-Eagle Indoor Games.

Padilla bettered his American record with a time of 8 minutes, 15.02 seconds in the meet at the forum. He set the national indoor standard of 8:15.3 in 1985 at San Diego.

Padilla, who broke away from the pack just beyond the mile mark and ran by himself the rest of the way, missed the international two-mile indoor mark of 8:13.2 set by Emiel Puttemans of Belgium in 1973.

As a measure of how much he outdistanced the field, Padilla beat runner Brian Ashire by more than 17 seconds. Ashire finished in 8:32.34, and Eamonn Coghlan of Ireland was third in 8:38.13.

"I hoped the pace would be a little faster, but I kind of figured it would be a 'fitter' race," Padilla said.

Elliott, who won the mile at the Meadowlands, in New Jersey a week ago, took the times mile in 3:55.51, with Nourredine Morcelli of Algeria second in 3:55.83. Marcus O'Sullivan of Ireland was third in 3:56.99.

Elliott's winning time the previous week was 3:52.02.

Danny Everett, who set a world indoor record of 45.04 in the 400 meters recently in West Germany, won the 500 last night with a time of 1:03.19.

American Jackie Joyner-Kersee, world record-holder in the heptathlon and double gold medalist in the Seoul Olympics, won one race and finished second in another.

Joyner-Kersee, the national indoor record-holder in the women's 60-meter hurdles, won that event in 8.01 seconds, well off her American standard of 7.81.

Americans Lynda Tolbert finished second in 8.08, and Donna Waller was third in 8.31.

Joyner-Kersee came back after a brief rest, to finish second to Michelle Finn in the women's 60-meter dash. Finn won in 7.19 and Joyner-Kersee was clocked in 7.32.

Davo Sowell, American record-holder (7.15) at the distance, withdrew from the final after she slipped and fell on the track following her qualifying heat, slightly injuring her left hip.

Although the injury was not thought to be serious, Sowell decided not to take a chance on aggravating it.

Joyner-Kersee wasn't particularly pleased with her outings, explaining, "I'm having some problems with the hurdles. I'm really trying to work on mechanics. I'm not snapping off the hurdles."

Of her loss to Finn, Joyner-Kersee said with a smile, "coming in second is very humbling."

Pakistan reach finals

Anwar hits 126 off 99 balls



ADELAIDE, Australia, Feb 17. (Reuter): Opener Saeed Anwar led Pakistan to their highest total in a 50 overs-a-side match with a spectacular 126 off 99 balls in their World Series Cup victory over Sri Lanka today.

Pakistan scored 315 for three and Sri Lanka, needing to win to keep alive their slim hopes of appearing in the finals, made a spirited attempt to reach the daunting target, finishing on 288 for four.

The crowd of 3,854 at the Adelaide Oval was treated to the biggest run fest in the history of the triangular tournament. The 603 runs scored bettered the 593 in Adelaide in January, 1983, when New Zealand posted 297 for six to beat England's 296 for five.

Anwar, whose previous best score in 10 one-day matches was 42 not out, belted eight fours and six sixes in a record World Series Cup opening stand of 202 with Ramiz Raja.

It beat the 182 by West Indies' Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes, also against Sri Lanka, in Melbourne five years

ago.

The stand fell just 10 short of the world best one-day opening stand of 212 by Australia's Geoff Marsh and David Boon against India at Jaipur in 1986-87.

Anwar, who has struggled for runs on tour, said he usually preferred to bat down the order.

"I tried early on to just settle down and get singles for the first

five or six overs and after that I think luck favoured me a little," he said.

Rameez was content to play the anchor role, posting his second successive one-day hundred following the unbeaten 116 he made against Sri Lanka in Hobart on Thursday. His unbeaten 107 contained only three fours and was made off 158 deliveries.

Sri Lanka's efforts to score an unlikely victory were built around a fifth-wicket stand of 128 between skipper Arjuna Ranatunga, who made 64, and Roshan Mahanama, who scored 72.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN

Ramiz Raja not out	107
Saeed Anwar b Asoka de Silva	126
Salim Mehmood	116
b Asoka de Silva	288
Imran Khan not out	1
Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-3 w-6)	22
Total (three wickets, 50 overs)	315
Fall of wickets: 1-202 2-224 3-314	
Did not bat: Javed Miandad, Ejaz Ahmad, Salim Yousef, Waqar Younus, Aaqib Javed, Nadeem	
Result: Pakistan won by 27 runs.	
Man-of-the-Match: Saeed Anwar (Pakistan)	

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Bowling: Wasim Akram 10-0-49-0

(1w); Waqar Younus 10-1-35-2 (1nb); Aaqib Javed 10-0-57-2 (2w); Nadeem Ghauri 8-0-64-1 (1nb); Imran Khan 10-0-60-0; Ejaz Ahmed 2-11-0 (1w)

Extras (b-5 lb-10 nb-6 w-6)

Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)

288

Fall of wickets: 1-55 2-53 3-94 4-123

5-251 6-258 7-271 8-200

Did not bat: K. Wijegunawardene

Anti-Indian demonstrations threaten World Cup hockey

LAHORE, Pakistan, Feb 17. (Reuters): The International Hockey Federation (FIH) threatened today to call off the World Cup after anti-Indian demonstrators interrupted India's match against the Netherlands.

Students protesting against India's crackdown against a violent Muslim independence campaign in its Kashmiri

state threw stones and sticks towards the Indian players and burned Indian flags.

The game was held up for a short time in the 29th minute with the Dutch leading 2-0 and both teams had to leave the field at halftime to avoid the barrage of missiles.

The match was completed, with the Netherlands winning 5-3, but FIH officials said if the players' safety could not

be guaranteed they might have to abandon the tournament.

"The security of the players is our prime concern and if the organisers cannot stop foreign objects being thrown into the field, we may have to call off the tournament," FIH technical delegate Heinz Wolje said.

Wolje and another technical delegate, Antonio von Ondarza, convened an emer-

gency meeting with the organisers this evening to discuss safety arrangements for tomorrow's match between India and Australia.

"We are reviewing the situation and the tournament cannot continue if a single match is suspended," said Von Ondarza.

The Indians, who have been continuously heckled by the crowds, are under

constant armed protection after they sought extra security before the tournament because of Indo-Pakistani tension over the disputed Kashmir region.

India's defeat by the European champions ended their faint hopes of qualifying for the semifinals while the Dutch went top of Group A, one point ahead of Australia who have a game in hand.

The Dutch were 2-0 up after nine minutes and added two more in the second half before India got on the scoresheet in the 65th minute.

India scored twice more after the Dutch added a fifth in the 66th minute.

Hosts Pakistan also took a big step towards qualifying for the semifinals with a 1-1 draw against England, silver medal-

ists at the last World Cup, to go top of Group B.

Pakistan beat West Germany, who have a game in hand, by one point.

To qualify for the semifinals England would need to beat West Germany in their final game and hope the Germans or Pakistan slip up against either sides.

England, Scotland win easily

LONDON, Feb 17. (Reuters): A run-away 75-metre try by leftwing Rory Underwood helped seal England's resounding 34-6 victory over Wales in their Five Nations Rugby Union Championship match today.

Underwood celebrated his 37th international — an England record for a back — with a try either side of halftime as England recorded their biggest victory over their old rivals.

England, who are now only one game away from their first Grand Slam since 1981, took full advantage of a strong, gusting wind to run up a 16-0 lead at halftime.

Full-back Simon Hodgkinson, who kicked 18 points in all, was on target with two early penalties then centre and Captain Will Carling weaved through the Welsh defence to score in the left hand corner.

Scotland beat France 21-0 in their match at Murrayfield after the visitors played the last half hour without flanker Alain Carminat who was sent off for stamping.

Full back Gavie Hastings got the Scots started with a penalty after nine minutes, but they had to wait another 40 minutes before going further ahead.

Fly half Craig Chalmers made the score 6-0 by converting the penalty English referee Fred Howard awarded against France when he dismissed Carminat for stamping on flanker John Jeffrey.

The dispirited French tried to rouse themselves and full back Serge Blanco made a dash through the middle, but as the ball went loose Scotland counter-attacked superbly to go 12-0 up on the hour with a try by Sean Lineen converted by Chalmers.

Liverpool sail through

Oldham hold Everton



Ian Rush

home to Barnsley in an all

Second Division encounter.

In the English First Division, champions Arsenal slumped to a 1-0 defeat at Sheffield Wednesday but remain third, eight points behind Liverpool and seven behind Villa.

In their FA Cup, Third Division Bristol City, who beat First Division Chelsea 3-1 in the fourth round, were held to the only goalless draw of the round at home to Fourth Division Cambridge.

Oldham, who effectively won a place in first leg of their semifinal on Wednesday, seemed hurried when Everton went 2-0

ahead in the space of five minutes in the first half.

Scotland striker Graeme Sharp struck in the 22nd minute and former West Ham star Tooy Cottie seemed to have secured his old club's revenge with a flick four minutes later.

But Oldham hit back. A 60th minute score gave Andy Ritchie his 25th goal of the season and Roger Palmer made it 2-2 with a 66th minute header.

Results

English Football Association Cup

5th round

Bristol City 0 Cambridge 0

Crystal P 1 Rockdale 0

Liverpool 3 Southampton 0

Oldham 2 (Reply on Wednesday, 21 February) 2

West Bromwich 0 Aston Villa 2

Playing Sunday: Newcastle v Manchester United, Blackpool v Queens Park Rangers, United, Blackpool v Queens Park Rangers, United v Barnsley.

English Division One

Coverton 3 Millwall 1

New Forest 1 Chester 1

Sheffield Wed. 1 Arsenal 0

Postponed: Charlton v Luton, Liverpool v Derby, Manchester United v Everton, Queens Park Rangers v Manchester City, Southampton v Norwich, Tottenham v Aston Villa, Wimbledon v Crystal Palace.

English Division One

Blackburn 1 Port Vale 0

Bradford 1 Oxford 2

Brighton 1 Leicester 0

Portsmouth 2 Portsmouth 2

Stoke 2 Wolves 0

Watford 1 Sunderland 1

Playing Sunday: Swindon v West Ham

Postponed: Newcastle v Bournemouth, United v Scarborough v Torquay.

Scottish Division One

Airdrie 3 Partick 2

Postponed matches: Alloa v Albion, Ayr v Forfar, Clyde v Hamilton, Falkirk v Clydebank, Morton v St Johnstone, Raith v Meadowbank.

Scottish Division Two

Aberdeen 2 Kilmarnock 4

Dundee U 2 St Mirren 2

Hibernian 2 Queen of the South 1

Motherwell 3 Dundee 1

Rangers 0 Hearts 0

Playing Sunday: Dundee v East Fife, Stirling, Montrose v Berwick, Queen's Park v Stranraer, Stenhousemuir v Brechin.

Plymouth v Oldham, West Bromwich v

Leicester, English Division Three

Birmingham 0 Wigan 0

Bury 1 Tranmere 2

Cardiff 0 Crews 0

Chester 1 Shrewsbury 0

Fulham 5 Notts County 2

Huddersfield 1 Mansfield 0

Nottingham 0 Bolton 2

Reading 6 Preston 0

Rotherham 3 Swans 2

Postponed: Blackpool v Swansea, Bristol Rovers v Walsall, Leyton Orient v

Brentford.

English Division Four

Chesterfield 3 Wrexham 0

Gillingham 2 Maidstone 0

Grimsby 4 Barnsley 2

Halifax 4 Aldershot 1

Harlepool 1

Lincoln 2 Colchester 1

Peterborough 3 Carlisle 0

Scunthorpe 0 Torquay 2

Playing Friday:

Postponed: Scunthorpe v Doncaster

Stockport 3 Doncaster 1

Postponed: Rochdale v Cambridge

United, Scarborough v Torquay.

Scottish Premier Division

Aberdeen 1 Celtic 1

Dundee U 2 St Mirren 2

Hibernian 2 Queen of the South 1

Motherwell 3 Dundee 1

Rangers 0 Hearts 0

Airdrie 3 Partick 2

Postponed matches: Alloa v Albion, Ayr v Forfar, Clyde v Hamilton, Falkirk v Clydebank, Morton v St Johnstone, Raith v Meadowbank.

Scottish Division One

Aberdeen 2 Kilmarnock 4

Cowdenbeath 2 East Fife 2

Stirling 1 Queen's of South 1

Postponed matches: Dunfermline v East Fife, Montrose v Berwick, Queen's Park v Stranraer, Stenhousemuir v Brechin.

Scottish Division Two

Aberdeen 107

Philadelphia 96

Cleveland 101

Minnesota 105

Chicago 105

San Antonio 86

Portland 101

Phoenix 114

Washington 112

Playing Sunday: Swindon v West Ham

Postponed: Newcastle v Bournemouth, United v Scarborough v Torquay.

Scottish Division One

Aberdeen 107

Philadelphia 96

Cleveland 101

Minnesota 105

Chicago 105

San Antonio 86

Portland 101

Phoenix 114

Washington 112

Playing Sunday: Swindon v West Ham

Postponed: Newcastle v Bournemouth, United v Scarborough v Torquay.

Scottish Division Two

Aberdeen 107

Philadelphia 96

Cleveland 101

Minnesota 105

Chicago 105

San Antonio 86

Portland 101

Phoenix 114

Washington 112

Playing Sunday: Swindon v West Ham

Postponed: Newcastle v Bournemouth, United v Scarborough v Torquay.

Scottish Division One

Aberdeen 107

Philadelphia 96

Cleveland 101

Minnesota 105

Chicago 105

San Antonio 86

Portland 101

Phoenix 114

Washington 112

Playing Sunday: Swindon v West Ham

Postponed: Newcastle v Bournemouth, United v Scarborough v Torquay.

Scottish Division Two

</div